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Note by the Secretary-General

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* Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.

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1. Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences

(Special; 1983)

PART I. Introduction

The Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS) is an international association established in 1963 to foster professional and scholarly activities in the field of criminal justice. ACJS promotes criminal justice education, research, and policy analysis within the discipline of criminal justice for both educators and practitioners.

Providing a forum for disseminating ideas related to issues in research, policy, education, and practice within the field, ACJS attributes its success in creating this dynamic professional association to the composition of its membership. As change expands the existing boundaries of the criminal justice field, ACJS is comprised of members from a variety of diversified backgrounds including:

- Scholars who are international in scope and multidisciplinary in orientation,
- Professionals from all sectors of the criminal justice system, and
- Students seeking to explore the criminal justice field as future scholars or practitioners.

Through the vital interchange of ideas among these groups, ACJS members develop and share knowledge about critical issues regarding crime, criminal and social justice. ACJS is comprised of an amalgam of scholars (international in scope and multidisciplinary in orientation), professionals (from all segments of the justice system), and students. Our success in creating this dynamic professional association is due to the variety of interest represented in its membership.
General information is also available at our web site: http://www.acjs.org/

Constitutional Changes

During 2003-2006, ACJS made several constitutional changes. Some of these major constitutional changes include the establishment of an International Section, responsibilities of the officers, procedures for meetings, elections, and guidelines for the Nominations and Elections Committee.

The International Section replaced the International Committee and was given a mandate "to provide advice, direction and continuity to the Academy's efforts in the areas of international information management and exchange, criminal justice research, curriculum development and general international networking." Since then, the International Section has been in the vanguard of efforts for a more active participation in the affairs of the United Nations.

The responsibilities of the officers, procedures for meetings, elections, and guidelines for the Nominations and Elections Committee were clearly outlined in the constitutional changes; thus eliminating many of the problems that existed prior to the changes.

PART II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

ACJS has been an NGO with consultative status in the United Nations since 1983 but its regular participation in United Nations NGO affairs had languished. However in 2002, ACJS reactivated it membership in the United Nations and has participated in a range of United Nations' activities during 2003-2006.

In 11-22 May 2003, President Lab represented the Academy at the Twelfth Session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Vienna, Austria. He was able to enter a statement on behalf of the Academy supporting the World Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in 2005. He was well received at the meeting and ACJS' presence was noted in the assembly. In 11-20 May 2004, Robert McCormack represented the ACJS at the Thirteenth Session of the Commission; he did not make any written or oral presentation on behalf of the organization.

During 3-5 December 2004, the organization was represented at International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Program International Conference on *Organized Crime and Humanitarian Disasters* and which was held in Courmayeur, Mont Blanc, Italy. The following year, the organization was also represented at International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Program International Conference on *The United Nations Convention Against Corruption as a Way of Life* and which was held, 2-4 December 2005, in Courmayeur, Mont Blanc, Italy. In both cases, ACJS was represented as an NGO and the representative did not make any written or oral presentation.

As a contribution to the United Nations Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice held 18-25 April 2005, in Bangkok, Thailand, several members of ACJS attended that conference. This Congress focused on organized crime, transnational crime, corruption, terrorism, and other forms of crime related matters. Prior to the Congress, ACJS worked on developing a proposal for an Ancillary Meeting of its own to be presented at the Bangkok Congress. As a result, three members participated on a panel session entitled *Justice System Restoration in Conflict Torn Nations: Establishing Standards and Making Them Work* at the Ancillary Meeting at the

conference in 2005. President Finckenauer also presented on a panel entitled *The Role and Value of Criminology Education and Justice Training* which examined the role, modalities, and impacts of criminology education and justice training upon peace and stability, particularly in transitional and developing nations.

During 15-17 December 2006, an ACJS representative attended the International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Program International Conference on *The United Nations Convention Against Corruption as a Way of Life* which was held in Courmayeur, Mont Blanc, Italy. ACJS was represented as an NGO and the representative did not make any written or oral presentation.

Other relevant activities

In 2002, ACJS reestablished its membership in the Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, New York during the reporting period. Robert McCormack represented the organization at its bi-monthly meetings. He also chaired the Alliance Nominations and Election Committee and was a member of the Working Party coordinating Alliance participation in the United Nations World Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Bangkok, Thailand, April 2005. ACJS also sent a representative to the United Nations 57th Annual Department of Public Information (DPI) NGO Conference in New York City in September 2004.

Benefits of United Nations Participation

As with most other national justice related organizations, the Academy has been evolving over the years into an increasingly more international body. The active involvement of ACJS in the United Nations activities has enhanced the international status of the organization. Its consultative status at the United Nations has provided the opportunity for the organization to have a voice in the deliberations of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its meetings in Vienna each year. Through its United Nations participation over the past few years, ACJS has contributed to the ongoing discussions of the Commission regarding some of the major international issues; thus supporting the goals and objectives of the United Nations. The United Nations remains the main venue for ACJS to increase its international presence and make an invaluable contribution to crime prevention and criminal justice in the international arena. Consequently, ACJS intends to continue its involvement and participation in the United Nations activities.

2. All Russian Social Fund

(Special; 2003)

PART I. Introduction

The main goal of the work of "All Russian Social Fund - The Russian Children's Foundation" (RCF) is protection of children's rights, implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child on Russian territory, promoting the social status of childhood in the Russian society and the public representation of children's interests at all levels of legislative and executive power, as well as a changeover toward a greater public focus on moral development of the younger generation; enhancing the liability of all people responsible for the cases of negative attitudes to the welfare of

children and youth and violation of their rights; strengthening the social infrastructure of education, moral development, and leisure; moral support for young talents in all fields of knowledge; rendering special assistance to orphans, disabled children, as well as to children in the Russian Federation and other countries, who suffered as a result of wars, inter-ethnic conflicts and natural disasters.

PART II. Contribution of the RCF to the work of the United Nations

1) A delegation of the RCF took part in the work of the 57th annual conference of the United Nations-associated NGOs, 8-10 September 2004, at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City, United States of America. Albert Likhanov gave a presentation "Against Evil – In the Name of Good", in which he expounded the issues facing children in the Russian Federation, dwelling also on the Beslan tragedy.

2) In 2005, the RCF prepared and published a report on the condition of children in the Russian Federation by a coalition of Russian NGOs "Alternative Report – 2005", presenting a picture of the implementation by the Russian Federation of the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, taking into account changes to Russian legislation.

3) A delegation of the RCF took part in the work of the international forum of NGOs "Civil G-8 – 2006", 9-10 March 2006, Moscow, Russian Federation. During the work of the section of Education, the RCF's Chairman put forward two constructive proposals which were later made part of the NGO Proposals on the Education Issues documents of the forum: (a) To work out the system of the civil society's control over the children's faith within their adoption abroad through the international NGOs cooperation; (b) To work out approaches towards the organization of primary and secondary schools in small towns and rural areas.

The entire work of the Russian Children's Foundation is primarily aimed at achieving the Millennium Development Goals adapted for Russia:

1. Poverty Reduction: The charitable programs of the Russian Children's Foundation, operating in 73 regions of Russia (RCF's Republican Divisions: Adygei, Altai, Bashkir, Buryat, Dagestan, Kabardino-Balkarskoye, Kalmyk, Karachaevo-Cherkessy, Karel, Mari, Mordva, North Osetian, Tuva, Udmurtia, Khakassiya, Chechen, Chuvashiya, Sakha-Yakut; RCF's Territorial Divisions: Altai, Krasnodar, Krasnoyarsk, Perm, Primorsky, Stavropol, Khabarovsk, Amur; RCF's Republican Departments: Ingush, Komi, Tatarstan; RCF's Regional Divisions: Arkhangelsk, Astrakhan, Belgorod, Bryansk, Vladimir, Volgograd, Vologda, Voronezh, Jewish, Ivanovo, Irkutsk, Kaliningrad, Kamchatka, Kemerovo, Kirov, Kostroma, Kurgan, Leningrad, Lipetsk, Moscow, Murmansk, Nizhny Novgorod, Novgorod, Novosibirsk, Orenburg, Orel, Pensa, Pskov, Rostov, Ryazan, Samara, Saratov, Sverdlovsk, Smolensk, Tambov, Tver, Tomsk, Tyumen, Ulyanovska, Chelyabinsk, Chita, Yaroslavl; RCF's Urban Division: Moscow, Sankt-Petersburg) and 10 CIS countries (Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Ukraine), are aimed at rendering multi-faceted assistance to orphans, making it possible to improve their life's quality. As part of these programs, children are given assistance in the form of food and clothing. The Foundation is providing considerable assistance to low-income families having children (thus, during the Reporting Period, the amount of financial expenditures on the program was - 106 millions rubles).

2. Increasing Access to Education: Guided by the Convention on the Rights of the Child, emphasizing education as the most solid and powerful tool promoting economic and social progress

and educating responsible and productive citizens, the Foundation developed and executed 8 projects aimed at the education and moral development of the younger generation:

1. The country-wide educational and social project promoting reading among children "*Great Illustrated Classics in 60 books*". This book series renders for children world-famous literary works in Russian translation. The books are printed in large letters; the content of each page is complemented with an illustration, which allows children with any educational background and children with special needs to get acquainted with world-renowned literary works.

The Foundation is publishing three periodicals (magazines):

2. "*Guiding Star. School Reading*" - for children of school age, with the best Russian and international literary works, each magazine having a special supplement containing the works written by children and youth (readers of the magazine)(circulation – 16 000);

3. "*Foreign Novel*" - a magazine for youth and adults, which publishes the world's best classical and contemporary fiction (circulation – 6 000);

4. "*Human Child*" - an educational publication for adults on legal matters of protection of children (circulation – 5 500);

5. One of the larger projects in the area of education of the younger generation is a video project "*Lessons of Morality*" containing conversations on ethical issues. The form and price of all publications is quite democratic, which makes them accessible to a large low-income readership;

6. The Russian Children's Foundation has developed a project "*Children's Library*" aimed at the intellectual and creative development of children and youth in remote Russian areas. The project serves to establish centers for intellectual and creative development of children and youth, based on libraries in small settlements and towns. The centers provide to the younger generation possibilities to fulfill themselves creatively. Virtually all that is published by the Foundation is distributed for free, with sponsors' support, among correctional labor colonies for juvenile delinquents, among boarding schools for orphans and among children's homes – 230 000.

7. The Foundation is supporting socially unprotected children gifted in the various fields of art and science. For many years, thanks to the program "*We Believe in You*" over 120 youngsters a year from all over the country have been receiving individual RCF's stipends.

8. Every year, on June 1, the RCF organizes "*The celebration of the International Day of the Protection of the Child*". Every year, during this event, with the Foundation's support, over fifty thousand children are given the opportunity to attend the country's best theatrical performances.

3. Reduction of Maternal Mortality and Mortality of Children under Five: The RCF is implementing medical-social projects to provide organizational and financial assistance in the treatment of socially unprotected children. The focus of these projects is on children with congenital heart disease, craniofacial pathology, deaf children, children with cerebral palsy and diabetic children. The Foundation has been implementing all of these projects for over 15 years.

4. Fighting HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Other Diseases: The Russian Children's Foundation is implementing projects to prevent HIV infection and tuberculosis. These projects include large-scale

prophylactic and information activity, as well as assistance to Russian medical establishments directly involved in the treatment of these diseases.

5. Participation in Global Development Partnership Corresponding to Russia's Global Interests: One of the main activities of the RCF is protecting the rights of children and youth as part of the implementation of a major international document – the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Terrorist acts, migration, poverty, psychological abuse at home and at school increase the number of children in need of protection. The Foundation is putting emphasis on elimination of unjust actions in relation to orphans, disabled children and children kept in correctional institutions for juvenile delinquents. For the purpose of prompt resolution of matters concerning violation of rights of children and youth, the RCF is closely cooperating with the Office of the RF Ombudsman, and the RCF is also a member of the Public Council of the Federal Penitentiary Service. Contributing its bit to global cooperation, the Russian Children's Foundation is active in implementing the goals of the International Decade of the Culture of Peace and Non-Violence in the Interests of the Children of the Planet (2001-2010), and the idea of the priority of pre-school education of the St. Petersburg G-8 Summit; the Foundation is also developing a Strategy for Childhood for the 21st century, submitting it for academic and public debate, dedicating all this work to the twentieth anniversary of the Children's Foundation to be marked in 2007.

3. Association of Medical Doctors of Asia

(General; 2006)

The Association of Medical Doctors of Asia (AMDA) aims to contribute to the global peace by promoting health and well-being of the underprivileged and marginalized people of the world who face difficulties mainly as a result of civil conflicts, natural disasters and poverty. AMDA, with its special strength in medical and health sectors, realizes its aims in three areas of activities, namely emergency relief and rehabilitation, integrated community development, and peace building and conflict prevention. Incepted on 1 August 1984 in Okayama, Japan, AMDA's network today encompasses 29 chapters and 35 sister organizations in the world.

AMDA, having obtained its first special consultative status in 1995, upgraded its status from special to general in 2006 in compliance with the reclassification regulation of NGO Section of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Following the reclassification AMDA has gone through a drastic organizational reform in order to strengthen the specialization and efficiency of each area of activities that AMDA is currently engaged in. AMDA now has two divisions, one specializing in integrated development projects and another one in emergency relief activities. By creating specialized divisions AMDA hopes to enrich and expand its work to meet the needs of growing scale and complexity of today's global community.

Participation in United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Annual Pre Executive Committee Consultation, Geneva, Switzerland: 28-30 September 2004, 27-29 September 2005 and 27-29 September 2006, Geneva, Switzerland

President of AMDA and the chairperson of AMDA Nepal attended the meeting in 2004. In the Session on NGO Perspective, AMDA's President, as one of the panelists, spoke on the characteristics of Asian NGO elaborating on the idea of partnership and local initiative. 2005 and 2006 pre-excom meetings were attended by AMDA staff members.

Cooperation with the United Nations Bodies and/or Specialized Agencies

Djibouti: Care and Maintenance Assistance to Refugees: Since the early 90s, AMDA continued to play a vital role in the refugee camps of Ali-Addé and Holl-Holl in Djibouti as the sole UNHCR's implementing agency in the health sector. AMDA provides the refugees with comprehensive medical and health programmes.

Myanmar: Behaviour Change for Prevention of HIV/AIDS: Because of the geographical and the social conditions of the region, the central dry zone of Myanmar faces potential risks in regard to the spread of HIV and its subsequent devastating impact. AMDA has been preliminarily working on this issue with such partners as World Food Programme (WFP) and the Ministry of Health (MOH), focusing on behaviour change approach.

Vulnerable and School Feeding, Food for Work/Training, Mother and Child Nutrition: In Kokang Special Region of Myanmar, a well-known area for poppy cultivation until it was banned in 2002, the survival of ethnic minority has been one of the major concerns. While alternative cash crops are being found, WFP and NGOs such as AMDA are trying to bridge the gap till their life becomes relatively stable. AMDA, as a key partner of WFP, utilizes above-mentioned various modalities to support ethnic minority groups to cope with economic and social difficulties. Approximately thirty villages are assisted by AMDA.

Nepal: Eastern Nepal AMDA Hospital and Primary Health Care Project for Bhutanese Refugees: Originally built in 1992 for the Bhutanese refugees, AMDA's secondary health care centre has been operating as a certified general hospital in providing medical services to refugees as well as local people of Damak. In 2001 AMDA reinforced surgery department of the hospital by dispatching a surgical team and upgrading services. UNHCR has been assisting AMDA in its programme for refugees implemented at the hospital. AMDA has also been commissioned by UNHCR the primary health project for 100,000 Bhutanese refugees in the seven camps in Jhapa and adjacent districts since 2001. General health care including nutritional supplements have been provided to Bhutanese refugees.

Primary Health Advancement through Sustained Empowerment (PHASE): To support the Nepalese in their struggle against poverty, United Nations has launched a programme called "Advancement of Women and Gender Equity."

Pakistan: Afghan Refugees Camps in Mohammad Kheil and Latif Abad: The beneficiaries of our projects in Pakistan have been Afghan refugees and some mixed minorities from other neighbouring countries. After completing two projects in Mohammad Kheil and Latif Abad in health and nutrition sectors through Basic Health Unit (BHU), AMDA shifted its focus on medical referral system for refugees involving twelve other camps of the region in cooperation with UNHCR.

Indonesia: Vaccination for the children in Aceh in collaboration with UNICEF: AMDA dispatched more than 100 personnel, mostly medical professionals, to affected sites in India, Indonesia and Sri Lanka in response to the unprecedented earthquake and tsunami disaster of December 2004. In the aftermath of

the disaster, AMDA in collaboration with United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), implemented vaccination for 1,545 children in Banda Aceh, and the most affected area in Indonesia.

Community-Based Emergency Shelter Rehabilitation in Nias Island, North Sumatra; It was March 2005, only three months after the unprecedented Tsunami had struck northern Aceh that another earthquake hit Nias Island. In order to respond to such tragedy, UNHCR and AMDA carried out the following activities: (1) monitoring on the distribution and usage of timber and (2) emergency shelter rehabilitation through community mobilization in the eastern costal region of the island, namely Botohaenga, Tagaule. The project has successfully completed.

Zambia: UNV: AMDA dispatched a staff member to Zambia where AMDA implements anti-Tuberculosis (TB) project in the unplanned urban settlement area. A United Nations Volunteer (UNV), who assists the local health administration, is jointly financed by UNV, Japan International Cooperation Agency.

Honduras: HIV/AIDS and Malaria Prevention Project: AMDA, currently being a sub-principal recipient of GFATM (Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria) has started its partnership with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in 2004. On behalf of UNDP, AMDA now manages the fund for HIV/AIDS and Malaria prevention projects for 14 national NGOs. In addition, AMDA organized seminars, collaborated with stakeholders for a variety of events, and monitored records of accounting and activities performed by the above national NGOs.

The United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

AMDA contributed and worked together toward achieving the Millennium Development Goals. Three out of the eight goals, namely reduction of child mortality (Goal 4), improvement of maternal health (Goal 5), and combat against HIV/AIDS are directly related to AMDA's main areas of work, medical and health sector. While focussing on the health sector, AMDA has and will expand its activities in scope and depth to further the United Nations MDGs which have become the guidelines of humanitarian activities worldwide.

4. European Disability Forum

(Special; 2003)

PART I – Introduction

1. Aims and purpose of the organization

The European Disability Forum is an international non-profit umbrella organization representing more than 50 million disabled persons in the European Union (EU). The mission of EDF is to promote equal opportunities and non-discrimination of disabled persons and to guarantee and protect their fundamental human rights by means of active involvement in policy development and campaigns on disability rights at EU level.

ii. Significant changes since 2003

a. Changes in the constitution

While the Organization's aims and purposes remained the same, a new Constitution was adopted by the Annual General Assembly in May 2004 in view to adapt the organization to the new situation of the European Union since the entrance of 10 new Member States in the European Union.
The changes related mainly to the new membership criteria of its full and ordinary European organizations in view to extend the geographical coverage of their member organizations to half + one of the European Union/European Economic Area member states. Moreover, in respect of the new geographical coverage of the European Union, EDF also amended the composition of its governing bodies such as the Executive Committee, the Board of Directors and Annual General Assembly.

The Constitution is available on EDF website and has been sent in its official French version along with this report.

b. Significant change in the geographical distribution of the membership

Since the enlargement of the European Union in 2004 to 10 new countries (Slovenia, Slovakia, Hungary, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Czech Republic, Poland, Cyprus and Malta), EDF enlarged its membership with 10 new national disability umbrella organizations (one in each of the 10 new Member States) as full EDF members.

PART II – Contribution of the organization to work of the United Nations

i. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings

- In October 2005 the EDF Disabled Women's Committee provided input to the study of the United Nations Division for the Advancement on Women on violence against disabled women.
- The United Nations Statistical Division recognized that statistical and methodological work was needed at an international level in order to facilitate the comparison of data on disability cross-nationally, and consequently, authorized the formation of a City Group. The City Group brings together representatives from national statistical agencies to address selected problems in statistical methods. EDF has been one of the very few organizations of disabled people participating in the process. In particularly, EDF has participated at third meeting in Brussels on 19-20 February 2004. Because of lack of funding, EDF was unable to participate in further meetings, but has participated in e-mail work until now advocating for the need to address all impairment groups, and to work also on the various dimensions of the International Classification on Functioning of the ICF, including participation and environmental barriers.

ii. Cooperation with United Nations and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

- The European Disability Forum participated in the drafting of the United Nations Convention on the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities. EDF President, supported by EDF Director, represented Europe as one of the 12 Disabled Persons' Organizations taking part in the first working group meeting in New York during 5-16 January 2004. EDF contributed to the preparation of the draft text which became the basis of the work of the Ad Hoc Committee and

held several contacts with the EU representatives of the working group (Germany, Ireland, Slovenia and Sweden).

- EDF was accredited since the first Ad Hoc Committee meeting in charge of negotiating the Convention. At least one representative of EDF attended each Ad Hoc Committee meeting through adoption of the Convention, starting with the second Ad Hoc Committee at the UN Headquarters in New York on 16-27 June 2003. EDF position was always prepared through a consultation of all of its members and position paper adopted in its General Assembly and Board meetings.

- The European Disability Forum played a vital role and facilitated coordination in the International Disability Caucus, the coalition of Disabled Persons' Organizations that participated in the drafting of the Convention.

- Several EDF members were included and played key roles in the national delegations to the Convention on the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities, including but not limited to the delegations of Austria, Finland, Ireland, Denmark, Italy, Spain, the Netherlands, Norway, and Sweden.

- During the reporting period, EDF was also invited regularly to present its views at the Working Party on Human Rights (COHOM) – Council of the European Union working group on human rights, where EU member States representatives within the Ad Hoc Committee and the European Commission met to agree on the EU position.

- The EDF Disabled Women's Committee, chaired by Lydia la Riviere-Zijdel, focused on drafting the text of the articles concerning gender in the Convention.

- EDF President was invited to the Official Signature Ceremony of the United Nations Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities in New York on 30 April 2007.

iii. Initiatives undertaken by the organization in support of internationally agreed development goals which now form the basis of the global agenda for the 21st century

- Since 2003, EDF has also been working to considerably increase commitment to disability policy in the Country Strategy Papers of the Afro-Caribbean and Pacific countries, as they are currently in the process of being revised.

- In 2004, EDF lobbied to raise the profile of disability in the United Nations Millennium Development Goals in light of the review process underway.

- Also in 2004, the EDF participated in a consultation by the World Bank and supported the initiative for a Global Partnership for Disability and Development.

- In early 2005, following the Tsunami disaster, EDF and the International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC) sent a joint letter to the European Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid, Louis Michel, and to Commissioner Benita Ferrero-Waldner (responsible for External Relations and the European Neighbourhood Policy). The letter, in which EDF offered its help and cooperation, was also addressed to the United Nations Humanitarian Aid mission, drawing attention on the specific needs of disabled victims, very often forgotten in

situations of crisis despite their vulnerability. In February 2005, the Disability Intergroup (composed of over 100 members of the European Parliament from all political groups) of the European Parliament held a meeting on "Tsunami, the impact on Disabled Persons" attended by members of the Inter-Parliamentary Committee for South Asia, which Chair was to go on mission to the affected Region in March 2005

- On 14 July 2005 in Brussels, Belgium, the meeting of the development cooperation committee of the European Parliament was dedicated to mainstreaming disability in development cooperation.
- On 19 January 2006, the European Parliament adopted a motion for resolution on disability and development. The resolution calls the European Commission to develop an integrated action plan on the guidance note on disability and development, prepared by the European Commission with the support of EDF. This action plan should establish an assessment on how needs of disabled people are addressed in development cooperation policies; guarantee that future funding programmes include concerns and funding for disability; and that programmes include capacity building of disabled peoples' organisations.

5. Life Ethics Educational Association

(Special; 1999)

PART I. Introduction

Aims and purposes of the organization and its man course of action:

To promote the sanctity of all human life from fertilization to natural death through public education. To advocate for the preborn, the disabled, the infirm and the elderly by promoting respect for all human life from fertilization to natural death by fostering and promoting public understanding in and knowledge of life issues, including, but not limited to, fetal development, abortion, new reproductive technologies, adoption, palliative care, euthanasia, physician-assisted suicide, human experimentation, post-abortion syndrome, chastity/ abstinence education and all other related issues affecting respect for human life and by providing for the publication of information to its members for further dissemination and the holding of educational lectures, public and private meetings, seminars and conferences on life issues.

PART II: Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings.

Representatives of Life Ethics Educational Association (LEEA) have provided the Member States with information, educational materials and research when requested and needed. LEEA's International Affairs Officer also participated as an adviser to the Republic of the Marshall Islands during the Disabilities Treaty Negotiations during the 8th Ad Hoc Session in 14-25 August 2006.

LEEA representatives have attended and participated in numerous major United Nations Conferences and meetings including, but not limited to, the following meetings during 2003-2006:

1. Commission on Social Development (41st Session), 10-21 February 2003, New York, NY.
2. Commission on the Status of Women, (47th Session), 3-14 March 2003, New York, NY.
3. Commission on Population and Development (36th Session), 31 March-4 April 2003, New York, NY.
4. Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities, 16-27 June 2003, New York, NY.
5. The Working Group of the Sixth Committee on an international convention against the Reproductive Cloning of Human Beings, 29 September-3 October 2003, New York, NY.
6. United Nations General Assembly 58th Session, October-December, 2003 United Nations Headquarters, New York; various meetings of the 3rd and 6th Committees and meetings with delegations relating to the Cloning Convention.
7. Commission on the Status of Women (48th Session), 1-12 March 2004, New York, NY.
8. Commission on Population and Development (37th Session), 22-26 March 2004, New York, NY.
9. Commission on Human Rights (60th Session), 4-25 April 2004, Geneva, Switzerland.
10. Ad Hoc Committee to consider proposals for a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention to Promote and Protect the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities, 24 May-4 June 2004 and 23rd August-3rd September 2004, New York, NY.
11. Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities, 23 August-3 September 2004, New York, NY.
12. General Assembly Sixth Committee, Cloning Convention (International Convention against the Reproductive Cloning of Human Beings), 21-22 October and 19 November 2004, New York, NY.
13. United Nations General Assembly 59th Session, October - December 2004, United Nations Headquarters, New York; various meetings of the 3rd and 6th Committees and meetings with delegations relating to Disability and Cloning Conventions.
14. Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities, 24 January and 4 February 2005, New York, NY.
15. The Working Group of the 6th Committee of the United Nations General Assembly on the proposed Cloning Convention and the Sixth Committee, 14-18 February 2005, New York, NY.
16. United Nations General Assembly Meeting Adopting the Declaration on Human Cloning, 8 March 2005, New York, NY.

17. Commission on the Status of Women (49th Session) and Beijing + 10 (Review and Appraisal of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the Outcome Document of the Twenty-Third Special Session of the General Assembly), 24 February-11 March 2005, New York, NY.

18. Commission on Population and Development (38th Session), 4-8 April 2005, New York, NY.

19. Commission on Human Rights (61st Session), 11-22 April 2005, Geneva, Switzerland.

20. Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities (Sixth Session), 1-12 August 2005, New York, NY.

21. 2005 World Summit (Follow-up to the 2000 Millennium Summit), 10-14 September 2005, New York, NY.

22. United Nations General Assembly 60th Session, October-November 2005, United Nations Headquarters, New York; various meetings of the 3rd Committee and meetings with delegations relating to Disability Convention and other human rights issues, New York, NY.

23. Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disability, 16 January-3 February 2006, New York, NY.

24. Commission on Social Development (44th Session), 8-17 February 2006, New York, NY.

25. Commission on the Status of Women (50th Session), 27 February-10 March, 2006, NY, NY.

26. Commission on Population and Development (39th Session), 3-7 April 2006, New York, NY.

27. Ad Hoc Committee to consider proposals Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disability for, 14-25 August 2006, LEEA's International Affairs Officer participated as a consultant on the official delegation for the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

28. United Nations General Assembly adoption of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol, 13 December 2006, New York, NY.

29. United Nations General Assembly 61st Session, September - December 2005, United Nations Headquarters, New York; various meetings of the 3rd Committee September-December 2006.

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Quadrennial reports for the period 2003-2006 submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council through the Secretary-General pursuant to Council resolution 1996/31*

Note by the Secretary-General

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* Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.

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1. International Cartographic Association

(Special; 1987)

1. Aims and purpose

The International Cartographic Association (ICA) is the world authoritative body for cartography and Geographical Information Science (GIS) and its mission is to promote the discipline and profession of cartography and GIS in an international context. Cartography is the discipline dealing with the conception, production, dissemination and study of maps. A map is a symbolized image of geographic reality, representing selected features or characteristics, resulting from the creative efforts of cartographers, and is designed for use when spatial relationships are of special relevance. GIScience is the scientific context of spatial information processing and management including associated technology as well as commercial, social and environmental implications. Information processing and management include data analysis and transformations, data management and information visualization.

The ICA exists:

- to contribute to the understanding and solution of worldwide problems through the use of cartography and GIS in decision-making processes;
- to foster the international dissemination of environmental, economic, social and spatial information through mapping;
- to provide a global forum for discussion of the role and status of cartography and GIS;
- to facilitate the transfer of new cartographic and GIS technology and knowledge between nations, especially to the developing nations;
- to carry out or to promote multinational cartographic and GIS research in order to solve scientific and applied problems;
- to enhance cartographic and GIS education in the broadest sense through publications, seminars and conferences;
- to promote the use of professional and technical standards in cartography and GIS.

The Association works with national and international governmental and commercial bodies and with other international scientific societies to achieve these aims.

The membership of ICA is by nation only and there are currently 84 members.

The category of affiliate member allows for organisations within a country, either scientific or commercial that have interests or commitments in cartography and geographic information, to become involved. ICA currently has 20 affiliate members.

2. Participation in Economic and Social Council and other United Nations meetings

The ICA participates as an observer to the United Nations Regional Cartographic Conferences. During this period, background and/or invited papers have been given during

- Third Meeting of the Committee on Development Information (CODI), on Information and Governance, at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 10-27 May 2003
- Fourth meeting of the Committee on Development Information (CODI), on Information as an economic resource, 23-28 April 2005, Addis Ababa
- Fifth meeting of the Committee on Development Information (CODI), on employment and the knowledge economy
- Eighth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for the Americas, held in New York, 27 June-1 July 2005. During this conference Dra Carmen Reyes Guerrero, Directora General of the Centro de Investigación en Geografía y Geomática "Ing. Jorge L. Tamayo" in Mexico-City, and Prof. Dr. Menno-Jan Kraak, Chairman of the Department of Geoinformation Processing of the International Institute for Geo-information Science and Earth Observation (ITC), in Enschede, the Netherlands, gave presentations on behalf of ICA
- Sixteenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific, Report of the Conference, Okinawa, Japan, 14-18 July 2003
- Seventeenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific, Report of the Conference, Bangkok, Thailand, 18-22 September 2006

The ICA participates as observer in the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names(UNGEGN). During this period it participated in:

- the Twenty-second Session of the UNGEGN in New York, 20-29 April 2004
- the Twenty-third Session of the UNGEGN, in Vienna, 28 March-4 April 2006

3. Cooperation with United Nations programmes and bodies

The ICA has had contact with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), especially through the Barbara Petchenik Children Map Award, a large competition opened to children who submit map drawings every two years. A selection of the drawings is displayed during ICA International Cartographic Conferences and five to fifteen participants receive an award. The winning drawings are submitted to the UNICEF International Art Committee for consideration as greeting card designs.

The ICA has had contact with the United Nations Geographic Information Working Group since its inception and during the reporting period has participated in many of its meetings.

March 3, 2004, ICA has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) in Vienna. In the framework of this new cooperations Prof dr Graciela Metternicht, chair of the ICA Commission on Mapping from Satellite Imagery, participated in UNOOSA workshops in Zambia (Lusaka, 26-30 June 2006).

2. International Chamber of Shipping

(Special; 1971)

Part I — Introduction

The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) is the principal international trade association for ship operators, whose membership comprises national shipowners' associations from 36 countries, representing 70% of the world's merchant tonnage in all sectors and trades. ICS is concerned with all regulatory, operational and legal issues, and has consultative status with a number of intergovernmental bodies which have an impact on shipping, not least the United Nations International Maritime Organization (IMO).

Part II — Contribution to the work of the United Nations

i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and / or major conferences and other United Nations meetings.

ICS participated in the following sessions of the parent Committees of the United Nations International Maritime Organization (IMO), which have taken place at IMO headquarters in London (unless stated otherwise) as follows:

Maritime Safety Committee (MSC): MSC 77 (28 May-6 June 2003), MSC 78 (12-21 May 2004), MSC 79 (1-10 December 2004), MSC 80 (11-20 May 2005), MSC 81 (10-19 May 2006), MSC 82 (29 November-8 December 2006, Istanbul, Turkey).

Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC): MEPC 49 (14-18 July 2003), MEPC 50 (1-4 December 2003), MEPC 51 (29 March-2 April 2004), MEPC 52 (11-15 October 2004), MEPC 53 (18-22 July 2005), MEPC 54 (20-24 March 2006).

Legal Committee (LEG): LEG 86 (28 April-2 May 2003), LEG 87 (13-17 October 2003), LEG 88 (19-23 April 2004), LEG 89 (25-29 October 2004), LEG 90 (18-29 April 2005), LEG 91 (24-28 April 2006), LEG 92 (16-20 October 2006, Paris).

Facilitation Committee (FAL): FAL 30 (19-23 July 2003), FAL 31 (19-23 July 2004), FAL 32 (4-8 July 2005), FAL 33 (3-7 July 2006).

Technical Co-operation Committee (TC): TC 53 (11-12 June 2003), TC 54 (15-17 June 2004), TC 55 (14-16 June 2005), TC 56 (13-15 June 2006).

ICS has also attended all meetings of the IMO Assembly (A23 25 November-5 December 2003 and A24 21 November-2 December 2005), and Council (C94 16-20 June 2003, C95 21-25 June 2004, C96 20-24 June 2005, C97 19-23 June 2006), and has actively participated in all meetings of the IMO technical sub-committees.

ICS is also actively involved in all relevant IMO technical working groups and inter-sessional correspondence groups, such as the IMO / ILO (United Nations International Labour Organization) / Basel Joint Working Group on Ship Scrapping (15-17 February and 12-14 December 2005, Geneva) and the IMO Inter-Industry Working Group on Fires and Explosions in Chemical and Small Product Tankers (established 2005).

Through its sister organisation, the International Shipping Federation (ISF), ICS is also involved in the work of the United Nations International Labour Organization (ILO). As one of the ILO social partners, ISF co-ordinates the views of maritime employers in ILO tripartite discussions and was closely involved in the negotiations on the 2003 ILO Convention on Seafarers' Identity Documents (ILO 185) and the 2006 ILO Maritime Labour Convention (MLC), and participated in the ILO International Labour Conferences in Geneva, 3-19 June 2003 and 7-23 February 2006 at which ILO 185 and the MLC, respectively, were adopted.

ICS has also been closely involved in the negotiations on a new legal instrument on liability for carriage of goods, under the auspices of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), and has participated in the biennial meetings of the UNCITRAL Working Group (April in New York, the United States of America and November / December in Vienna, Austria).

ii) Cooperation with United Nations bodies and / or specialized agencies in the field and / or at Headquarters.

Promoting implementation of the IMO Ballast Water Management Convention (9-13 February 2004) and the ILO Maritime Labour Convention (28 February 2006) through development of industry guidance.

ICS is represented on the board of governors of the IMO World Maritime University, and since 2003 has provided funding for a University fellowship.

IMO World Maritime Day celebrations (29 September 2005 and 28 September 2006) - ICS helped produce special leaflets underlining the chosen themes of the annual IMO celebrations (World Trade in 2005 and Technical Co-operation in 2006), circulated to policy makers world wide. ICS also contributed to an industry World Maritime Day event in London in 29 September 2006.

iii) Initiatives undertaken by the organization in support of internationally agreed development goals, in particular, the Millennium Development Goals, which now form the basis of the global agenda for the 21st century.

i) Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

MDG 1 — The eradication of extreme poverty and hunger —

In 2004 ICS co-ordinated the development of the Shipping Facts website (www.shippingfacts.com) which provides clear information on the economic importance of shipping and its contribution to

improving standards of living, for use by policy advisers, political researchers or mainstream journalists.

ICS is also committed to the principle of free trade and has continued to promote the importance of a successful conclusion to the Doha Round of World Trade Organization (WTO) negotiations. ICS produced a special brochure, designed to coincide with the WTO Ministerial Conference in Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China in 13-18 December 2005, which emphasised the importance of liberalised shipping services to the world economy, and which was forwarded to WTO trade negotiators.

MDG 7 — Ensure environmental sustainability

ICS has continued to promote the implementation of the IMO International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, not least through the development of best practice and industry guides on environmental compliance, such as the ICS leaflet on Oily Water Separators.

ii) Activities in support of Global Principles

ICS produces a range of publications promoting the implementation of IMO Conventions (listed at www.marisec.org/pubs), to ensure a global standard.

The 2006 ICS DVD film, 'International Shipping: Life Blood of World Trade', underlines the importance of shipping's international regulatory framework, for use by national shipowners' associations during dialogue with policy makers worldwide.

3. International Federation for Housing and Planning

(Special; 1947)

The International Federation for Housing and Planning (IFHP) was founded in 1913. It has both individual and organizational Members in over 60 countries. It is a world-wide network of professionals of various disciplines in the broad field of housing and planning. It organises activities and offers facilities for international exchange of knowledge and experiences in the professional field. IFHP aims to improve the housing and planning profession by learning and networking. It intends to contribute both to the steady evolution of the profession itself and to the development of solutions for actual problems. It gives high priority to the detection of the latest trends and the renewal of policies. IFHP provokes discussions between experts, politicians and interest groups at the right time, i.e. before final problem solving decisions have to be made. IFHP aspires tot optimise learning effects by using the comparison as a method. Comparisons of equal issues set in situations that differ geographically, economically of culturally may catch a totally new light on a current approach or on a yet unsolved problem.

IFHP Publications 2003-2006

Besides the publication of reports of all IFHP activities, the following publications have been produced in the period 2003-2006: on a regular basis: The quarterly "IFHP Newsletter", the yearly "Latest Developments in the Field of Housing and Planning and Membership List and Directory".

Official Relations: With the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Educational, Social and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

Legal Seat: Change of the legal seat of the IFHP in 2005 from Brussels (Belgium) to the Hague, the Netherlands.

Activities in 2003

- **IFHP International Spring Conference: 31 May-3 June - Letchworth London, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Theme: Enhancing Urban Quality: The Green Dimensions**
- **IFHP Working Party Urban Land Policy (ULP) Meeting: 5-6 June - Tallinn, Estonia. Theme: Public and Private Land Development in the Baltic Region**
- **IFHP Working Party Multifunctional and Intensive Land Use (MILU) Meeting: 4-6 June, Gdynia, Poland. Theme: Multifunctional and Intensive Land Use**
- **IFHP Summer School Finland: 27 July-9 August - Otaniemi-Helsinki-Porvoo-Jyväskylä, Finland. Theme: Cultural Heritage in Regenerating Suburban and Rural Areas**
- **IFHP Summer School Germany: 29 June-9 September, Berlin, Germany. Theme: Social Transformation Processes in Urban Regions: an International Exchange between the Cities of Astana, Tashkent, Tehran and Berlin**
- **IFHP Summer School Italy: 31 August-13 September, Sabaudia, Italy**
- **IFHP Working Party Tourism and Urban Development (TUD) — Tourism and Urban Development Meeting: 25-27 September, Oporto, Portugal**
- **IFHP Working Party "Pour une ville de nouvelle mesure": 19-20 September, Paris, France. Study of 5 themes: Public Space, the Time Dimension, Urban Life, Financing, and Policy Development**
- **47th IFHP World Congress: 5-8 October, Vienna, Austria. Theme: Cities and Markets, Shifts in Urban Development**
- **11th IFHP Student Competition: 5-8 October, Vienna, Austria. Theme: The Local & the International in Your City of the Future**
- **Czech IFHP Seminar: 10-11 November, Brno, Czech Republic. Theme: National Urban Development Policy**

Activities in 2004

- IFHP Working Party Multifunctional and Intensive Land Use (MILU) Meeting: 9-12 May, Portland, Oregon, United States of America. Theme: Multifunctional (mixed) Use of Land Space and Developments of Portland
- IFHP Working Party Pour une ville de nouvelle mesure: 14 May, Paris France; 5-6 November, Brussels, Belgium
- IFHP Spring Conference: 30 May-2 June, Vilnius, Lithuania. Theme: Cities Moving Forward: Policies, Instruments and Conditions
- IFHP Summer School Finland: 1-14 August, Porvoo-Jyväskylä, Finland. Theme: To Regenerate Cultural Heritage
- IFHP Summer School Italy: 29 August-11 September, Sabaudia, Italy
- 48th IFHP World congress: 5-9 September, Oslo, Norway. Theme: Urban Governance for Urban Change
- 14th IFHP Film/Video Competition: 31 August-4 September, Oslo, Norway. Theme: Lights and Shadows of Cities
- IFHP Working Party Multifunctional and Intensive Land Use (MILU): 7 September, Oslo, Norway
- IFHP Working Party Present-Day Urban Public Spaces: 7 September Oslo, Norway
- IFHP Working Party Tourism and Urban Development TUD: 10-13 October, La Valetta, Malta
- IFHP Working Party Housing and Urban Settlements: 17-20 October, Riga, Latvia

Activities in 2005

- IFHP Working Party "Les règles d'urbanisme": 23 January, Paris, France. Focus on the Legal Aspects of Spatial and Physical Planning
- IFHP Working Party Urban Land Policy: 24-27 April, Istanbul, Turkey. Seminar on Public-Private Actors in Urban Development Projects
- IFHP Spring Conference: 21-25 May, Portland, Oregon, the United States. Theme: The Intentional City: Applying Local Values and Choice in a Global Context
- IFHP Summer School Finland: 15-28 August, Otaniemi-Helsinki-Porvoo-Jyväskylä, Finland. Theme: New Urbanity for the Existing Townscape, more specifically for Jyväskylä: Restoring the Identify of Säynätsalo, and for Porvoo: The Riverside Waterfront
- IFHP Summer School Italy: 29 August-11 September, Sabaudia, Italy
- IFHP Summer School China: 1-14 August, Tianjin, China. Theme: Urban Renewal in the 21st Century — Heritage, Regeneration & Development
- IFHP Working Party Housing and Urban Settlements: 11-14 September, Tallinn, Estonia. Seminar Large-Scale High-rise Areas of the Post-War Era
- IFHP Working Party Multifunctional and Intensive Land Use (MILU): 4 October - Rome (Italy). Workshop MILU net Midterm Review of the Implementation Labs of The Hague: Stockholm, Mantova and Huelva

- 49th IFHP World Congress: 2-5 October, Rome, Italy. Theme: Urban Futures: Continuities and Discontinuities
- 12th International IFHP Student Competition: 28 September-2 October, Rome, Italy. Theme: Restructuring an Urban or a Rural Space to Enhance Identity
- Working Party Tourism and Urban Development: 18-20 October, Budapest, Hungary. Seminar on How New Tourism Products Influence Historic Cities

Activities in 2006

- IFHP Working Party Urban Land Policy: 23-25 April, Krakow, Poland. Theme: How to Generate Financial Revenues from Urban Developments
- IFHP Working Party Continuity and Change in Cities: 14-17 May, Oslo, Norway. Theme: Balancing Preservation, Development and Renewal
- IFHP Spring Conference: 28-31 May, Macao, Province of China. Theme: Innovations in the Urban Habitat
- IFHP Working Party Housing and Urban Settlements: 10-13 June, Belfast, the United Kingdom and Dublin, Ireland. Themes: - Re-structuring of Large Scale Post-War Housing Estates Problems of Housing Affordability
- IFHP Summer School Finland: 7-19 August, Otaniemi/Helsinki, Turku/Jyväskylä, Finland. Theme: Urban Planning and Design
- IFHP Summer School Italy: 28 August-9 September, Sabaudia, Italy. Theme: Public Space and the Beauty of the City
- 49th IFHP World Congress: 10-14 September, Geneva, Switzerland. Theme: Urban Life, Boundaries and Transformations
- IFHP Working Party Tourism and Urban Development: 30 September-3 October, Göteborg, Sweden. Theme: Integrated Policies for Tourism & Sustainable Development in Historic Cities.

4. Jordanian Hashemite Fund for Human Development

(Special; 1995)

Part 1 Introduction

The Jordanian Hashemite Fund for Human Development (JOHUD) was established in 1977. Its aim is to improve the well-being of poor and marginalized people across Jordan by promoting rights-based sustainable human development.

JOHUD has five main course of action to promote sustainable human development.

JOHUD acts as a catalyst for communities to work together to play a leading role in local development processes; JOHUD provides training, research and consultancy services to build individual and institutional capacity; JOHUD implements projects that tackle specific problems and

empower people to improve the well-being of all segments of society; JOHUD builds alliances and advocates for policies that are equitable and socially inclusive; JOHUD mobilises resources from individuals and organisations to provide a 'safety net' for the most vulnerable.

JOHUD operates across the whole country, through its network of 50 community development centres, JOHUD helps people work together to improve livelihoods and to ensure that everyone has access to the entitlements that contribute to healthy and fulfilled lives.

The broad aims and objectives of JOHUD remain focussed on national work within Jordan. However, JOHUD has broadened its scope and now operates regionally by providing training, research and consultancy services in the Arab region (Bahrain, Qatar, Syrian Arab Republic, Iraq (pre 2004), Sudan, Saudi Arabia, and Lebanon). This outreach work is consolidated by activities organised by JOHUD that attract participants from the whole region. Between 2003 and 2006, JOHUD organised 4 regional workshops on Reproductive Rights, with 100+ delegates from 15 countries of the Arab Region. JOHUD staff also took part in regional workshops and attended regional conferences, thereby strengthening the capacity of this region to develop and pursue a regional approach to sustainable human development.

Part II Contribution to the work on the United Nations

1. Participation in work of the Economic and Social Council and other United Nations meetings

The United Nations Global Youth Leadership Summit 29-31 October 2006 in New York, the United States of America, JOHUD staff member (Danah Dajani) represented youth of region at the Unite Nations Headquarter to assembly with speech and visual presentation.

Copenhagen + 10: 43rd Session of the United Nations Commission on Social Development, 9-18 February 2005, in New York, the United States, JOHUD staff member (Huda Hakki) attends sessions as part of official Jordanian delegation.

2. Cooperation with the United Nations bodies and/or specialised agencies in field or at Headquarters

Project in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to promote reproductive health and family planning 2003-2005

i) Project in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as implementing agency for production of Jordan's National Human Development report, 2001-2004

ii) Project in collaboration with the International Labour Organization (ILO) to tackle child labour 2006-2008

iii) Projects in collaboration with the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and Jordan National Commission for Women (JNCW) to mainstream gender in government department (land and survey) 2002-2005

iv) Activities with Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in support of Alliance Against Hunger 2006-2007
v) Project in collaboration with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to support oral intangible cultural heritage of bedu people 2006-2007
vi) Project in collaboration with UNFPA to advocating for reproductive health, gender and violence against women 2004-2007
vii) Project in collaboration with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) to build the Capacity and support community based activities in the Syrian Arab Republic 2006
viii) Project in collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to enhance parental care at the local level 2003 — on going
ix) Project in collaboration with UNICEF to enhance of Adolescents' Participation in the School Life 2006-2007
x) Project in collaboration with UNIFEM to raise the awareness on HIV/AIDS among youth 2006-2007
xi) Project in collaboration with FAO on home garden in 2005
xii) Project in collaboration with UNRWA to train on gender 2006 in the Syrian Arab Republic
xiii) Project in collaboration with UNICEF to establish friendly youth centres for youth in 2006
xiv) Project in collaboration with UNIFEM on mainstreaming gender in public institutions (Ministry of Labour and Ministry of Foreign Affairs), 2006-2007

3. Initiatives contributing to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

The process of implementing the 2004 National Human Development Report played a major role in raising awareness of all aspects of the MDGs and in particular in support of the United Nations Human Rights Conventions as the framework for a rights-based approach to development.

The organisation contributed to MDGs across Jordan through its core work in all aspects of sustainable human development. With an estimated 50,000 beneficiaries reached every year through the network of 50 Community Development Centres, and a further 25,000 reached through projects and the safety net support, JOHUD has contributed to reduce poverty and hunger for over 75,000 people per year.

4. Activities in support of global principles

Launch of Jordan National Human Development Report (27 June 2004) — JOHUD as the implementing agency led the launch of the report: Building Sustainable Livelihoods — an event attended by around 400 key decision makers and opinion leaders including Government of Jordan Ministers. The event was held under the patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Basma bint Talal, who is also a Goodwill Ambassador for UNDP, UNFPA and UNIFEM. The event was well covered by media sources (TV, newspapers, radio etc.).

The organisation has not participated significantly in the work of the Economic and Social Council and subsidiary bodies or in United Nations meetings during this period because the mandate of

JOHUD and its mission is to promote grassroots actions in support of poor and marginalised communities. JOHUD focuses on implementing projects at community level — reaching out to more than 50,000 beneficiaries with an integrated programme to promote social, economic, political and cultural empowerment. JOHUD does, however, act in collaboration with a wide range of United Nations agencies as a project partner and values this cooperation.

The organisation would collaborate more fruitfully with the United Nations if the United Nations agencies explicitly adopted a policy of engaging proactively with civil society (as well as with host governments) at all stages of their work — with obligations to consult and engage, and targets to monitor this engagement. Such a mechanism should also include accountability mechanisms included a greater role for local civil society to provide feedback through independent channels.

5. National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

(Special; 2003)

Introduction

Founded in 1909, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is the oldest and largest grassroots-based civil rights organization in the United States of America. Comprised of 2,200 units with members throughout the world, the NAACP's advocacy efforts focus on areas such as education, health, and economic empowerment, among others. While the NAACP has a long history of fighting for human and civil rights of all Americans including those of African descent, the organization formally created an International Affairs Department in 2005. This department has helped to strengthen and sharpen our focus on international issues.

Contribution to the work of the United Nations: support of global principles

Since the organizations' founding, the NAACP has tirelessly supported globally recognized human and civil rights throughout the world. In support of this aim, the NAACP has been involved in multiple projects between 2003 and 2006.

The NAACP actively engages in advocacy and education on legislation before the United States Congress on a plethora of international issues. These actions include working with members of the Congress and staff members in the crafting of legislation, drafting and delivering testimony before the United States Congress, as well as creating and distributing Action Alerts, Issue Briefs and Issue Updates aimed at informing and educating the American public about different issues and how they can be more actively involved in making improvements.

In 2005, the NAACP supported Congressional action that urged the White House to release $146 million in loans to Haiti that were being held up. In 2002, this resolution was unanimously endorsed by the United States and other delegations to the Organization of American States. Among other things, it resolved to "support normalization of economic cooperation between the Government of

Haiti and the international financial institutions and urge those parties to resolve technical and financial obstacles that preclude such normalization."

The NAACP also worked hard to successfully urge the United States Congress to support the Africa Growth and Opportunity Acceleration Act of 2004. This legislation renewed provisions that give trade advantages to imports from some African countries as well as technical assistance to help those nations improve their economies through September 2015. Renewing these provisions was crucial to help African industry gain a fair place in the global marketplace prior to worldwide quotas being removed in January 2005.

The NAACP has also worked tirelessly to help pass legislation to increase funding for the Global AIDS fund. The aim of this bill was to provide $15 billion to assist in fighting HIV/AIDS around the world. Such support was of particular importance to regions with high rates of HIV/AIDS infection. These efforts were successful as the bill was signed into law on 27 May 2003.

The NAACP also worked to support legislation to lift trade embargoes against Cuba. These trade embargoes have consistently proven to be counterproductive and have a negative impact on the lives of Cubans and American businesses. Thus, the NAACP worked to and continues to support a bill aimed at lifting the trade embargo.

Other legislation that the NAACP has focused on includes the Sudan Peace Act. Signed into law on 21 October 2002, this Act appropriated $100 million for the fiscal years 2003 through 2005 to help prepare the people of Sudan for peace as well as to provide support in areas such as education and health care. The NAACP monitored this implementation while working on legislation aimed at halting the atrocities in Darfur, the Sudan.

The NAACP has also engaged in hands-on projects aimed at improving human rights around the world. The following are examples of projects that the NAACP has worked on to address issues faced by different parts of Africa.

The NAACP has also recognized the conflict in Darfur, the Sudan, for over a decade now; however, since 2003 we have worked with our grassroots units on United States policies to assist in bringing an end to these atrocities. Such efforts include disseminating information to NAACP members and others in order to educate them about the atrocities occurring in Darfur, the Sudan. The NAACP has also participated in letter writing campaigns to the United States President, members of the Congress and State Department, requesting action to address the conflict in Darfur, the Sudan. This campaign occurred in 2005 and achieved its goal of collecting over 4,000 letters. This number was significant as 4,000 was the approximate death toll at the time of the letter writing campaign.

More recently, the NAACP worked to raise awareness among the American public, United States Congress, and the President about the conflict in Darfur, the Sudan, by successfully assisting in organizing as well as participating in a demonstration and rally in Washington, DC on 30 April 2006. Along with other civil and human rights groups, the NAACP helped to influence the decision of United States President to send Deputy Secretary of State Robert Zoellick to assist in brokering a

peace agreement between the Government of the Sudan and the rebels. The NAACP also helped to encourage the United States President to support the African Union and to send additional troops to the Sudan. The NAACP continues to address issues in the Sudan and collaborates with multiple organizations to achieve this aim.

Also in 2006, the NAACP joined forces with United States and international coalition partners to urge that the United States Congress and President to hold a joint session of Congress to hear from newly elected Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf regarding 100 million dollars in emergency supplemental funds for Liberia. The NAACP also developed research studies and prepared talking points focused on needs in Liberia. The result was a $64 million United States appropriation to address the needs of Liberia.

In 2006, the NAACP also worked with actor Isaiah Washington to address health, education and other challenges in Sierra Leone. This initiative included a trip to Sierra Leone during which Mr. Washington and the NAACP met with leaders in the government, public and private sectors as well as local people to discuss problems such as a lack of clean water, hospitals and schools. These travels were filmed for later usage as a documentary that was shown during subsequent meetings with members of the United States Congress. The aim of these meetings was to raise awareness about these issues in Sierra Leone as well as gather support for addressing these issues.

Further, the NAACP has recognized the needs of the people in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. To this aim, the NAACP participated in the creation of Congo Global Action, a collection of humanitarian, human rights, civil rights, environmental, faith-based and Congolese organizations. This consortium of organizations seeks to support positive growth for the people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

The NAACP has also worked to address human, voting, social, and economic rights for peoples of the African Diaspora. Beginning in early 2006, the NAACP began working with officials from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, resulting in the extension of an invitation to the NAACP to serve as observers to the 2006 Presidential Elections on 3 December 2006. The NAACP accepted the invitation and sent a delegation from 28 November – 6 December 2006 to serve in this capacity. Following the election, the NAACP made its recommendations and in February of 2007 released a report entitled, *"An Observational Briefing of the 2006 Venezuelan Presidential Election"*. This opportunity also helped to build and strengthen the relationship between the NAACP, the government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and the Afro-Venezuelan community.

In 2005-06, the international media reported ongoing civil unrest throughout France's minority suburban neighborhoods. Impressed with the relative success of the American civil rights movement and the NAACP's contribution to that effort, in 2005 Conseil Représentatif des Associationa Noires (CRAN) inquired about NAACP strategies in building a successful civil rights organization and recommended ways to help advance full citizenship rights for all living in France, regardless of race, ethnicity or religion. To this end, the NAACP met with CRAN in Paris on April 28-29, 2006 to discuss the NAACP's history and its Brown vs. Board strategy in dismantling America's separate but

equal doctrine. The speeches were well received and CRAN requested that the NAACP return in 2007 to provide further consultation.

In conclusion, the NAACP has a long history of successfully working to address human and civil rights of people around the world. The NAACP is committed to continuing these successful efforts.

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Note by the Secretary-General

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* Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.

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1. Family Planning Association of Turkey

(Special; 1999)

PART I. Introduction

i) The aims and purpose of the organization and its main course of action.

Aim of the Family Planning Association of Turkey (FPAT) is to participate in advocacy, training, information and medical activities related to family planning, reproductive and sexual health and women education recognized as the basic human rights and therefore to contribute to the improvement of individual and family health and women status.

PART II. Contribution of the organization to the work of United Nations

I) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings.

1) The Executive Director and Member Parliament (MP) Member of FPAT participated in the European Population Forum 2004. Experts to Examine European Population Trends and Policies, hosted by the Government of Switzerland and co-organized by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) convened in Geneva, 12-14 January 2004, MP member of FPAT gave a statement in the meeting.

2) The MP member of FPAT participated in the United Nations Beijing +10 Conference Forty-Ninth Session of the Commission of the Status of Women held in New York, United Nations Headquarters, 28. February-11 March 2005.

3) The member of FPAT participated in the United Nations General Assembly High-Level Meeting on HIV/AIDS held in New York, United Nations Headquarters, 2 June 2005.

4) The member of FPAT participated in the United Nations General Assembly twenty-sixth special session: implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, 2006 High-Level Meeting on AIDS, Uniting the World against AIDS held in New York, United Nations Headquarters, 31 May-2 June 2006.

II) Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters.

1) The Executive Director and two MP members participated in the 3rd Inter European Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development (IEPFPD) Council Meeting supported by UNFPA on Resource Mobilization, Creating and Enabling Environment and Overcoming Barriers and Obstacles to the Implementation of ICPD, Lisbon, Portugal, 26-27 May 2003.

2) The Executive Director of FPAT participated in Workshop on Sexual and Bodily Rights Human Rights in the Middle East and North Africa - organized by Women for Women's Human Rights (WWHR) New Ways and Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies, Malta, 29 May-1 June 2003.

3) In the scope of Sub-Programme Document between the Government of Turkey and the UNFPA, Program Area Population and Development Strategies to assist the Turkish Government in its goal of reaching a population structure that is compatible with balanced and sustainable development and to reduce disparities, an Advisory Council was set up in Ankara and FPAT executive Director was invited to work as a member of the Council for the period of 29 July 2003-January 2004.

4) FPAT took part in the organization of the Fourth IEPFPD Council Meeting: Women in Society, Towards the Tenth Anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Woman, Ankara, Turkey 1-2 April 2004, UNFPA Deputy Executive Director held the opening speech and the FPAT president gave the welcome speech and member of FPAT gave the Closing Statement.

5) The Executive Director and the MP member of FPAT participated in 2004 International Parliamentarians Conference on the Implementation of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Programme of Action, Strasbourg, France, 18-19 October 2004.

6) The Executive Director of FPAT participated in the Youth Friendly Sexual and reproductive Health Symposium and gave a presentation, organized on the scope of Reproductive Health Programme of turkey with the technical and financial support of World Health Organization (WHO), European Union (EU), UNFPA, UNICEF in Ankara, Turkey, 1-3 March 2006.

7) The members of FPAT chaired the 9th Congress of the European Society of Contraception (ECS), as Congress President and President of FPAT as resident of Scientific Committee and the FPAT Executive Director as chairperson of the last session, and organized and hosted jointly by FPAT, Turkish Society of Reproductive Health and Contraception, Ankara, Turkey, 3-6 May 2006.

8) The MP member of FPAT participated in the international Parliamentary Conference on the Implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action, Bangkok, Thailand, 21-22 November 2006 organized by the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) and UNFPA.

III) Initiatives undertaken by the organization in support of Internationally agreed development goals, in particular the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which now form the bas's of the global agenda for the 21st century.

i - Activities inline with the Millennium Development Goals

Goal 5. Improve maternal health
Target 6. Reduce by three quarters the maternal mortality ratio
ACTIONS: Provision of general medical care = 230.343

ii - Activities in Support of Global Principals

1) World Human Rights Day, world AIDS Day, International Day for the elimination of Violence Against Women were observed in 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006.

2) IPPF Sexual and Reproductive Rights Charter was reprinted in Turkish and distributed to health producers, teachers, youth and university libraries.

3) 31 NGO's were gathered to form a group to take their support in lobbying the work of FPAT towards parliamentarians in the Grand National Assembly of Turkey on Maternal and Infant Mortality in 2006.

4) A project was implemented in 8 provinces of Turkey where the maternal mortality is high in collaboration with the parliamentarians of those provinces. 8 permanent multi disciplinary committee was established under the chairmanship of the Governors of there provinces to develop Urgent Action Plans.

5) FPAT established "Mother and Child Health Clinic" in one of the poorest area of Istanbul on October 2005 to provide high quality health services to families.

6) FPAT implemented a two-year project to cover 60.000 students to train on Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights in five provinces of Turkey; Ankara, Istanbul, Izmir, Diyarbakır and Mersin, This project was started on 15 December 2005.

7) A National Mass Media Campaign was launched to continue in 2005 and 2006 on Modern Contraception in collaboration with two private National TV's and two newspapers and 5 women magazines.

2. German Foundation for World Population

(Special; 1999)

PART I. Introduction. DSW aims, purposes and main course of action. DSW is an international development organization, formed in 1991 as a private non-profit foundation. DSW is based in Hannover, Germany, and has country offices in Ethiopia, Kenya, United Republic of Tanzania and

Uganda, plus an European Union (EU) Liaison Office in Brussels, Belgium. DSW is politically and religiously independent, relying on private donations and financial support from other organizations, foundations and agencies to advance its work. DSW's main goal is to help people free themselves from poverty, by helping them avoid unwanted pregnancies and protect themselves from HIV/AIDS. Informing young people about sexuality and contraception is the core of most of our projects in developing countries. Through media, awareness-raising and advocacy work, DSW also informs policymakers in Africa, in Germany and throughout Europe about the connection between population development, poverty and health.

PART II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations. DSW's contribution to the work of the United Nations is too extensive to describe fully here; highlights can be found below. i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and or major conferences and other United Nations meetings. (1) 2006 High-Level Meeting on AIDS, Uniting the World against AIDS, 31 May-2 June 2006, United Nations New York: DSW helped recruit four German Members of Parliament (MPs) to be actively involved in this conference. DSW itself was a member of the German government delegation, providing advice and answering government requests and helped compile a German shadow report. (2) United Nations High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development, 14 September, 2006, United Nations New York: DSW helped German MPs write a letter to the German Chancellor and to the Government Commissioners of Human Rights and Integration to highlight female aspects of migration. (3) United Nations Commission on Population and Development (CPD) 37th Session, 22-26 March, 2004, New York: DSW was an official member of the German government delegation. (4) Education Congress and Expo co-organized by the South East Asian Ministries of Education Organization and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) 27-29 May 2004, Bangkok, Thailand: DSW Kenya gave a presentation at a parallel session on HIV/AIDS preventive education. (5) United Nations Commission on Human Rights 60th Session, 15 March-23 April 2004, Geneva: DSW made a statement in support of the report of Paul Hunt (United Nations Human Rights Commission's Special Rapporteur) on the right to health. (6) European Population Forum co-organized by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), at the United Nations' headquarters, 12-14 January 2004, Geneva: DSW presented a background paper on population issues. ii) Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters. (a) Active promotion and fundraising for UNFPA. Throughout 2003-2006, DSW actively promoted UNFPA, organizing many opportunities for UNFPA's leadership to speak to the German parliament and high-level German government officials. For example: (1) On 18 October 2006, DSW organized a German parliamentary breakfast with Dr. Thoraya Obaid, UNFPA Executive Director. (2) On 6 September 2006, DSW organized a parliamentary breakfast with UNFPA's Cambodia Country Director. (3) On 20 October 2004, DSW helped arrange a presentation of Dr. Obaid with the German Parliament Committee on Economic Cooperation and Development. (4) On 21 October 2004, Dr. Obaid and Dr. Dietrich Garlichs of United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Germany spoke at the International Dialogue on Population and Sustainable Development organised by DSW in cooperation with GTZ and Schering, in order to the explore link between the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD)/Cairo Programme of Action and the MDGs. (5) On 17 October 2006, Dr. Obaid spoke at the 5th International Dialogue, again organized by DSW in collaboration with partners. (6) In January 2004, DSW published an article in "Chrismon", a widely

respected Protestant newspaper, highlighting UNFPA's campaign on obstetric fistula and presenting a statement of Dr. Obaid. (7) From 8-13 May 2006, DSW collaborated with UNFPA and others to organise a study tour for 12 European MPs to provide insight into how sexual and reproductive health (SRH) fits in with Ethiopia's plans to attain the MDGs. Each year 2003-2006, DSW "launched" the German edition of UNFPA's State of the World Population Report (SWOP). This event is important for UNFPA visibility among German media, government policymakers, MPs and the general public. In each successive year, the SWOP launch had greater success than before, culminating in 2006 with more than 50 journalists attending the press conference, featuring German government and UNFPA representation. All major nationwide newspapers covered the SWOP, some devoting a full page to it. The 2006 report's key issues were highlighted in 224 articles in print media, 177 online articles, 38 news agencies articles, 2 video text articles, and 8 TV news features, including Germany's main prime time news. In addition, in 2005, DSW and UNFPA presented the revised 2004 *UN World Population Prospects*, which was covered by all German news agencies and leading daily newspapers, plus several radio broadcasts.

Other. (1) In 2006, DSW helped UNAIDS improve its Resource Flows Project by promoting harmonization of global data collection on resource flows affecting HIV/AIDS. (2) In October-December 2003, DSW and *Medica Mondiale* (an emergency relief organization) issued an "Aide Mémoire" on the human rights dimension of Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) to the German Foreign Office, to increase German government support for the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health in defense against attacks led by the US and Pakistani government at the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in Geneva. (3) In 2003-2006, DSW implemented a knowledge management and Community of Practice strategy for the EU/UNFPA Reproductive Health (RH) Initiative for Youth in Asia. (4) In May 2004, in co-operation with partners, DSW organized a conference on the human rights dimension of SRH, which featured a UN High Commissioner for Human Rights presentation of a report regarding the right to health. (5) In December 2005, DSW in Ethiopia hosted UNICEF training on HIV/AIDS prevention. (6) In March 2003, the Ministry of Health Uganda, UNFPA and DSW agreed to jointly undertake trainings for health providers. (7) Supporting UNFPA Goodwill Ambassador Alfred Biolek's promotion of UNFPA. Several times in 2003-2006, DSW supported the work of German celebrity and goodwill ambassador Dr. Alfred Biolek, who, through a broadcast on 10 June 2006 reached a total 7-8 million people (approximately 10% of the total German population) with messages supporting UNFPA. In addition, in February 2005, DSW presented, with UNFPA, the 2004 Revision of the *UN World Population Prospects*, which was covered by all German news agencies and leading daily newspapers, plus several radio broadcasts. As a result of DSW advocacy actions, including these, the German government has repeatedly increased its contribution to UNFPA in 2003-2006. The German government pledged at the UN General Assembly Commemorative Meeting on October 14, 2004, to fill the gap in RH supplies through an increased contribution of $15 million to UNFPA. Again in 2006, the German government decided to increase its contribution to UNFPA by another €1 million for 2007.

iii) Initiatives undertaken by the organization in support of internationally agreed development goals, in particular, the Millennium Development Goals, which now form the basis of the global agenda for the 21st century. DSW participates in far too many activities in support of the MDGs to detail them all here. In 2003-2004 alone, DSW activities reached more than 6.7 million young people age 10-24 in developing countries to help improve their personal SRH, thus contributing directly to MDG #5

(Improve maternal health), MDG #6 (Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other poverty diseases), MDG #4 (Reduce child mortality) and MDG #3 (Promote gender equality and empower women), while also contributing indirectly to the other MDGs. DSW's awareness raising and advocacy activities contribute most directly to MDG #8 (Develop a global partnership for development), as we consistently advocate for more, and more effective, development assistance from donor countries in Europe. iv) Activities in Support of Global Principles. DSW participates in far too many activities in support of global principles to list them all here. Most important of these are international commitments to human and social development, especially the ICPD Programme of Action, the Beijing Conference on Womens' Rights, and the International Convention on the Rights of the Child. One example: on the occasion of the United Nations General Assembly, 13 October 2004, New York, DSW and other organizations delivered more than 30,000 signatures from Europe and the United States to commemorate the 10th anniversary of ICPD. Since 1999, DSW has held special consultative status with Economic Social Council. This status has helped advance our aim of helping people avoid unwanted pregnancies, protect themselves from HIV/AIDS and free themselves from poverty. We hope this report demonstrates our qualifications for continued Economic and Social Council special consultative status, and look forward to continuing to support the United Nations and its aims.

3. National Council of Women of the United States

(Special; 1999)

Part I. Introduction

1. The National Council of Women of the United States, Inc. (NCW/US) is a coalition of organizations and individuals dedicated to addressing the diverse concerns of women in pursuit of social, economic and political equality. NCW/US works for the education, participation and advancement of women to make equality for women a national obligation. The National Council of Women of the United States serves as a forum to promote progressive ideas, influence policy decisions and to be a united voice for women's issues. The national Council of Women of the United States is the oldest non-sectarian women's voluntary organization in the United States of America.

Part II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

i) Participation in Major Conference

Representatives attended the following Department of Public Information /Non-governmental Organizations (DPI/NGO) Conference at the United Nations in New York, the United States: 6-8 September 2006, "Unfinished Business: effective Partnerships for Human Security and Sustainable Development", 7-9 September 2005, "Our Challenge: Voices for Peace, Partnerships and Renewal", 8-10 September 2003, "Human Security and Dignity: Fulfilling the Promise of the United Nations. Committee on the Status of Women Sessions Side Events were sponsored and/or co-sponsored: 27 February 2006 NCW/US sponsored a Health/Environment Forum Entitled "Are Neighborhood Chemicals Blurring the Gender in our Children?" the United Nations Church Center, New York, the United States. Panelists were Obstetrician/Gynecologist (OB/GYN) Physicians and Professional Environmentalists. NCW/US co-sponsored the following Side Events: 1 March 2005 – "Violence Against Women: War Crimes and the International Criminal Court", held in the United

Nations Church Center, New York, the United States Sponsored by the International Federation of Women Lawyers.

2 March 2005 NCW/US - "Effects of Racism on the Advancement of Women" held in the United Nations Church Center, New York, the United States Sponsored by Mary Knoll Sisters of St. Dominic.

2 March 2005 NCW/US - "Poverty Eradication, a Women's Human Rights Approach" held in the United Nations Dag Hammarskjold Auditorium, New York, the United States Sponsored by The International Council of Women.

6 March 2006 NCW/US - "Promoting Gender Equality for Women: Health. Education and Human Rights" held in the United Nations Church Center, New York, the United States Sponsored by National Association of Negro Business and Professional Clubs, Inc.

ii) Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/ or specialized agencies in the field or Headquarters.

21 April 2006 The National Council of Women of the United States and the United Nations Development Programme Community Water Initiative in Ghana sponsored a special event in honor of the support provided by the Prem Rawat Foundation. The Prem Rawat Foundation gave a grant to both organizations to support Water Initiative Programs in Gnana and to help achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The event was held in the United Nations Conference Room 2, New York, the United States.

iii) Initiatives undertaken by the organization in support of internationally agreed Development Goals, in particular the Millennium Development Goals.

In support of the MDGs the State International Forum Series was established to sponsor Special State Sessions to promote the awareness of the MDGs, in the communities, and to encourage state and local authority to unite with civil society groups to address these problems.

20 January 2006 the program was launched in Legislative Office Building, Hartford Connecticut, the United States. A Proclamation was presented to the National Council of Women of the United States.

1. Millennium Development Goals

The organization contributed to Millennium Development Goals in Africa, Eastern Europe, South America and the United States

Goal 1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

Target 2: Halve the proportion of people who suffer from hunger

Actions:

- Children fed and given nutritional supplements = 17,200
- Women were taught how to plan and harvest variety of vegetables in Ghana = 50
- Bags of Rice and Food Baskets distributed = 3,000 lb of rice – 2,000 food Baskets to HIV/AIDS patients and families

Goal 2. Achieve universal primary education

Target: Ensure that children everywhere, boys and girls alike will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling.

Actions:

- School bags with school supplies distributed = 1,257
- School fees and uniforms provided for children in need = 3,500
- Books for libraries, primary to secondary = 1,505

Goal 5: Improve maternal health

Target: Reduce by three quarters the maternal mortality ratio.
Action: Improve the building structure of an existing health facility in a rural village in Ghana and added a maternity room. In collaboration with the Health Department a full time Midwife is stationed at the Health Center, Birth and prenatal care = 1,000

Goal 7. Ensure environmental sustainability

Target 2. Reduce by half the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water
Action: During 2003-2006 Electric Metered or Hand Pump Water Well were funded, constructed and working well in very rural villages in Ghana = 40.

2. Activities in support of Global Principles

13 October 2003 A tribute to Global Ministry: "Addressing the Challenges: Human Dignity and Poverty": Awards were present to 14 Honorees from the Missionary Community. The Chief of the NGO Section, United Nations Department of Information, was the keynote speaker at the Awards Luncheon held in the Delegates Dining Room, United Nations, New York, the United States, in Partnership with the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. 2003-2004 Through funding of Health Plan of New York (HIP) the National Council of Women/ United States was given the opportunity and challenge to address an aspect of poverty in New York, the United States with homeless women. In cooperation with the Grand Central Neighborhood Social Service Corp the program "The Empowerment of Homeless Women and Cultural Exchange was established.

Program Goal: To encourage and empower homeless women to reclaim their self-esteem, self worth and dignity in preparation of entering or re-entering employment in the development of a productive livelihood.

21 January 2005 The National Council of women recognized seven corporations for making a difference in the workplace life of women.

Goal: Diversity: to emphasize the positive aspects in our society and to recognize efforts to create Racial, Spiritual and Ethical Harmony.

Theme: "Challenge of a Changing World: Racial, Spiritual and Ethical Harmony". Honorees: CitiGroup Inc., Colgate-Palmolive Co., and Lucent Technologies, Scholastic, I Time Warner, Central Brooklyn Family Health Network and Health Plan of New York; Held at the Millennium Hotel, United Nations Plaza, New York, the United States.

16 May 2006 the National Council of Women of the United States, the United States Department of Labor, Women's Bureau Reg. II and Public Service Electric and Gas, Community Affairs Division sponsored a Roundtable and Dialogue Seminar, design for the empowerment of the woman business owners. Theme: "New Trends – New Challenges". Meeting was held in the Public Service Enterprise Group (PSEG) Building, Park Place, Newark, New Jersey, the United States.

4. Perhaps Kids Meeting Kids Can Make a Difference

(Special; 1995)

PART I Introduction

Perhaps Kids Meeting Kids Can Make a Difference (KMK) brings children and youth, ages 5 to 24, together from all backgrounds and nations in an effort to create a world that is peaceful and just. Their work together makes it possible for kids from many countries to know that they, too, can participate, take action for positive change and make a difference in the world in which they live. Children and youth run the organization. Decisions are reached by consensus and made by young people working in cooperation with a few supportive adults. Actions taken are the actions of young people.

PART II Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations Meetings.

2004: The 57th Annual Department of Public Information (DPI)/NGO Conference 8-10 September 2004, New York. KMK attended the sessions on the Millennium Development Goals Civil Society Takes Action.

2005: Representatives attended and participated in the following meetings in New York, all related to children's rights: The 58th Annual DPI/NGO Conference 7-9 September.

The 49th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) (Beijing +10) 28 February – 11 March 17 2005, New York. KMK attended and lobbied for more girls to participate in the

conference for the status of women. KMK also co-sponsored a side event "Speak Out Panel" with the Working Group on Girls. Young girls from KMK were on the panel.

Briefing on United Nations Study of Violence against Children 17 November 2005, New York. KMK attended and participated in side panels.

2006: Representatives attended and participated in the following meetings in New York, all related to children's rights: 34th Session of the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women 16 January-3 February, 50th Session of the CSW 27 February-10 March.

Reports of children participation have been shared with the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in at the 61st 62nd Sessions in Geneva, Switzerland, 14 March-22 April 2005 and 13-27 March 2006.

ii) Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or headquarters.

KMK monitors closely and shares information through the International Children's Rights Network on the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child. From 2003 to 2006 KMK has been a contributing member of both the UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund) and United Nations NGO Working Groups on Children in Armed Conflict, Children's Rights, Drug Abuse, Education, and The Girl Child.

The organization helped design, and collect the data for the United Nations Study on Violence Against Children. KMK worked alongside with other NGO's to distribute and administer the survey among KMK's constituency and other children in New York, August - December 2004.

iii) Initiatives undertaken by the organization in support of internationally agreed development goals, in particular, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The organization contributed to the Millennium Development Goals by continuously raising awareness about the needs of children and the support that can be given them through the United Nations.

During the reporting period, KMK has continue to organize and operate an International Children's Rights Network for youth organizations and young people, and it has also distributed information world wide on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. It has worked continuously through every year from 2003 to 2006 to inform young people of their rights and to urge grown up leaders to both ratify and enforce the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

KMK has maintained an international children's pen pal and computer network (kidsmeetingkids.org) since 1995, which enables users to share information on children's rights and helps children and youth find ways to work together peacefully to help one another.

2003-2006 Annually the organization has held an International Children's Congress. Children and young people are invited to attend from each of the Missions of the United Nations to speak together about issues of peace, and non-violence, and to find ways to raise assistance for the children of the world and awareness and support for the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Each year, the Congress was held in New York at the Church Center for the United Nations in the month of April.

5. World Federation of Democratic Youth

(General; 1947)

PART I i) Introduction

The World Federation of Democratic Youth (WFDY) was founded on 10th of November, 1945 in London, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. WFDY consists of youth organizations in different countries and of diverse political tendencies, religious beliefs and forms of activity which, on the basis of equality and mutual respect for their autonomy, wish to coordinate their efforts for the best satisfaction of the interest of youth and to make their contribution to the common ideas of freedom, independence, democracy, friendship, international solidarity and world peace.

WFDY has more than 180 member organizations from more than 100 countries all over the world. WFDY continues to expand its scope involving as well many youth organizations out of its membership at national, regional and international levels. WFDY has 5 regions (Africa; Asia & the Pacific; Europe & North America, Latin America & the Caribbean; Middle East) that compose harmoniously the network of cooperation with the Headquarters in Budapest, Hungary.
As an International Youth Non-Governmental Organization (NGO), WFDY has always considered maintaining closer contacts with the United Nations System, particularly the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Economic and Social Council, and the International Labour Organization (ILO) as a top priority, more so in programs related to youth. In all our activities organized and held, we included as point on the agenda for discussion WFDY's need to participate and improve our co-operation with UNESCO and the United Nations system.

During the period 2003-2006, WFDY was deeply involved in 16th World Festival of Youth and Students, successfully held in Caracas, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, from 7 to 15 August 2005, under the slogan "For Peace and Solidarity, We Struggle against Imperialism and War!", playing a determinant and fundamental role for an event that was the largest and the most significant political, cultural, broad-based mass initiative organized by world progressive and democratic youth and student forces. This edition of the World Festival of Youth and Students welcomed more than 17.000 delegates of local, national, regional and international organizations from 144 countries, representing millions of young people and students from all over the world. Prior to this WFDY also held its 16th Assembly, 4-7 March 2003 in Havana, Cuba.

PART II – Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

PART II i) – Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations Meetings

- The International Conference of NGO's that maintain operational relations with UNESCO took place in the UNESCO Headquarters, in Paris, France, 17-19 December 2003, being attended by a Vice-President of WFDY. The WFDY's representative intervened and presented its resolutions in many points of the agenda in different sessions especially on the issues of human rights, education for all, and culture of peace.

- In the 60th Session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights (UNCHR), in Geneva, Switzerland, 15 March-23 April 2004, WFDY was represented by its Secretary-General.

- The 61st Session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights (UNCHR), in Geneva, Switzerland, 14 March-22 April 2005, was attended by the Secretary-General of WFDY.

- 4th UNESCO Youth Forum, which took place in the UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, France, from 30 September-2 October 2005, under the title "Young people and the Dialogue among Civilizations, Cultures and Peoples – Ideas for action in education, the sciences, culture and communication". This event, organized in the framework of the 33rd Session of the UNESCO General Conference had the main aim to produce a report for it on the youth related issues. Within its operational relation with UNESCO, WFDY participated in this event as observer, presenting its points of views and contributions on different fields. It was also a good opportunity to meet and exchange experiences with some International Youth NGOs and other young people, taking into account the participation of 229 representatives from 128 countries (184 delegates) and 45 observers.

- The International Conference of NGOs that maintain official relations with UNESCO, held in the UNESCO Headquarters from 14-16 December 2005, in Paris, France, was attended by a Vice-President of WFDY.

PART II ii) – Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

The organization of the WFDY's Historical Files in the framework of the UNESCO Participation Program 2004 – 2005 was a priority developed with remarkable success. WFDY worked with an expert in its Headquarters enabling to recover, store, preserve and organize, namely through a digital database, many different materials that confirm the richness of the patrimony of the WFDY's Historical Files, which constitutes an important part of the history of the second half of the 20th Century, namely for the youth and student's movement. As a result of this work WFDY managed to print in 2006 for the first time in fifteen years its historical magazine "World Youth".

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Note by the Secretary-General

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1. InterAction: American Council for Voluntary International Action

(General; 1995)

American Council for Voluntary Action (InterAction) is the largest coalition of the United States of America-based international non-governmental organizations (NGOs), focused on the world's poor and most vulnerable people. Collectively, InterAction's 168 members work in every developing country. In September 2006 the incoming President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) launched a strategic planning process to engage the full InterAction membership in goal-setting. At the end of the process, more than one hundred member CEOs had reached consensus on three new goals for Inter-Action: focusing the United States foreign assistance on the world's poor and most vulnerable, using knowledge from the field to influence policy and practice, and working in coalition and forming strategic alliances.

In order to share practices with the Economic and Social Council at the United Nations, and to prepare for the undertaking of specific activities that will advance the achievement of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, InterAction has actively participated in the following meetings:

1) The United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, 3-14 March, 2003, New York: InterAction delegates attended, participated in caucuses and workshops, and lobbied on violence against women and gender and the Millennium Development Goals for the Agreed Conclusions; 1-2 March, 2004, New York: InterAction delegates attended, participated in caucuses and workshops, and lobbied on women peace and security and on the involvement of men and boys in achieving gender equality; 28 February-11 March 2005, New York: InterAction delegates attended, participated in caucuses and workshops, and lobbied for reaffirmation of the Beijing Platform for Action at this ten year review meeting; 27 February-10 March, 2006, New York: InterAction delegates attended, participated in caucuses and workshops, presented a workshop entitled "Gender Mainstreaming in Action: Successes in Enhancing Gender Equality in Africa" (28 Feb; Church Center), and lobbied for gender parity in decision making at all levels.

2) Included articles on the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, 2003-2006, in InterAction's newsletter "Monday Developments" as follows:

14 April 2003, "United Nations Women's Meeting Deadlocks on Violence", "NGOs Debate MDGS and Fifth World Women's Conference"; 12 April 2004, NGOs Lobby at United Nations Meeting for Women's Equal Participation in Peace Processes and Government Accountability; 28 March 2005, "United Nations Meeting Reaffirms 1995 Women's Conference Goals After the United States Withdraws Abortion Amendment"; and 20 March 2006, "NGOs Mobilize on United Nations Reform and Gender Equality".

InterAction attended the following meetings, presented by United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies:

1) The high-level plenary meeting of the 60th session of the General Assembly (Millennium plus Five Summit), 15 September 2005, New York. InterAction delegates attended and supported strengthened action and resources to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015.

2) International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Washington D.C. offices; regular consultations with representatives.

3) The United States for United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United States for Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United States for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP): These organizations are all InterAction members and collaborate on a regular basis with InterAction and our other 168 NGO members.

4) Included United Nations representatives as plenary speakers and workshop presenters at InterAction's annual Forum in Washington, D.C., as follows:

19 May 2003, Shashi Tharoor, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Communications and Public Information, Opening Plenary Keynote Speaker; 17 May 2004, Rudd Lubbers, UNHCR, Opening Plenary Keynote Speaker; 18 May 2004, Kamal Malhotra, UNDP, Senior Advisor on Inclusive Globalization, Panel on Trade and Development—Linkages and Limits; 1 June 2005, Mark Malloch Brown, Chef de Cabinet to the United Nations Secretary General, Opening Plenary Keynote Speaker; 2 June 2005, Arunabha Ghosh, Policy Specialist, Human Development Report Office, UNDP, Panel on Inequalities and Development; and 11 April 2006, Nicolas Coussidis, Head, UNHCR NGO Liaison Unit, Panel on Putting the "Secure" in Food Security for Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs).

As a coalition, InterAction does not have projects of its own in the field. Our 168 members all are carrying out projects and other activities in support of the MDGs. InterAction supports and actively promotes the MDGS through our educational and communications activities, as well as in our advocacy with the United States government. Specifically, we have included the following articles in our newsletter, "Monday Developments," and convened sessions related to the MDGs at our annual Forum, as follows.

1) "*Monday Developments*" newsletter articles related to the MDGs: 9 June, 2003, United Nations Official Highlights Close Partnership Between the United Nations and NGOs; 7 February, 2005, MDG Progress Report Seen as Outline for Next Decade; 14 March, 2005, Attainment of Millennium Goal for Women Requires Action on Priorities Now; 20 June, 2005, Gender Equality as a Driving Force for Achieving the MDGs, Key United Nations Adviser says Push to Meet MDGs — Now or Never, and United Nations Millennium Project Report as Force to Achieve MDGs; 12 September, 2005, MDGs: Fulfilling the Global Partnership for Development; 12 September, 2005, Global Civil Society Joins Together Around World Summit; 14 November, 2005, Institutionalizing Gender Equality as a Force for Global Development.

2) Sessions on the MDGs and United Nations speakers at InterAction's annual Forum in Washington, D.C.:

- Meeting Our Commitments to the MDGs, Panel Presentation, Jeffrey Sachs, Earth Institute Director; Professor, Columbia University; and Special Advisor to the United Nations Secretary General, 20 May 2003

- Evaluating Our Work against the MDGs and Other Commitments, Panel, 21 May 2003

- Gender, Poverty, and the Millennium Development Goals Plenary Panel, 19 May 2003, Dr. Santosh Mehrotra, Human Development Report Office, UNDP and Joanne Sandler, Deputy Executive Director, United Nations Fund for Women (UNIFEM)

- Peace, Human Security, and Gender Equality: Moving the International Security Agenda Forward Plenary Panel, 17 May 2004, Ambassador Anwarul K. Chowdhury, United Nations Under-Secretary General and High Representative for Least Developed Nations and former United Nations Security Council President

- From Beijing to the Millennium Summit: Gender Equality as a Force for Achieving the Millennium Development Goals Plenary Panel, 1 June 2005

- A Plan to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals Panel, 1 June 2005, John McArthur, Manager, United Nations Millennium Project

- Stepping Up to the Plate: Goal 8, the United States Government, and Civil Society Advocacy, 2 June 2005

- International NGOs and Local Civil Society Organizations: Working Toward the Millennium Development Goals, 3 June 2005

5) InterAction participates vigorously in the humanitarian activities of the Economic and Social Council. As one of three NGO consortia that are permanent invitees to the meetings of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) and its Working Group (IASC-WG), InterAction was represented at all of the regular semi-annual and special Principals' meetings during the reporting period and participated actively in the high-level discussions of responses to specific crises as well as thematic issues. InterAction was equally engaged in the scheduled and special meetings of the IASC-WG, bringing its members' experience to bear on issues on the agendas for those sessions. InterAction was deeply engaged in the Humanitarian Reform Process initiated by Under-Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs Jan Egeland, providing member feedback on the cluster, Central Emergency Relief Fund (CERF), and humanitarian coordinator issues. Within the IASC-WG, InterAction played occasional leadership roles co-chairing sub-working groups or task forces focused on security, where InterAction helped organize IASC endorsement for *Saving Lives Together* and in playing a major role in writing and field testing the IASC's *Guidelines on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Emergency Settings*. InterAction also engaged in a leadership role in the

elaboration of the Global Humanitarian Platform, serving on both the Steering Committee and the Working Level Group.

In addition, InterAction co-hosted with United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) at the United Nations Secretariat meetings generally held the last Friday of the month during which NGOs and United Nations agencies, along with representatives of the Red Cross Movement, shared information on current natural disasters and complex emergencies. InterAction made available to the United Nations three exhaustive reports it prepared detailing how its members were spending $1.8 billion received from the American people to assist those affected by the December 2004 Tsunami.

InterAction frequently hosted at its headquarters United Nations officials from both their agency headquarters and their foreign posts for exchanges of views on appropriate responses to crises being experienced in the field. Senior United Nations officials who participated in these exchanges included: Mr. Egeland, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and the Secretary-General's Special Representatives (SGSRs) for Liberia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. InterAction has a particularly intimate relationship with UNHCR, as many of its members are its implementing partners. InterAction fielded delegations to attend the Steering Committee, NGO Consultations, and Executive Committee meetings held each year in Geneva. In its advocacy activities with the United States administration and Congress, InterAction gave a high priority to generous funding for the high-profile crisis in Darfur/Chad and Iraq but also for neglected crises, e.g. those in northern Uganda, the occupied Palestinian territories, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. InterAction frequently pressed the United States Government (USG) to facilitate access by United Nations and other humanitarian officials in areas where the United States had influence, e.g. to southern Lebanon during the Israeli incursions of 2006.

2. Freedom House

(Special; 1995)

I. Introduction

i. Organization's Aims and Purposes

Freedom House is a clear voice for democracy and freedom around the world. Founded in 1941 by Eleanor Roosevelt, Wendell Willkie and other citizens of the United States of America concerned with the mounting threats to peace and democracy, Freedom House has been a strong proponent of democratic values and a steadfast opponent of dictatorships of the far left and the far right.

Freedom House is a leading advocate of the world's young democracies that are coping with the debilitating legacies of tyranny, dictatorship and political repression. The organization conducts an array of advocacy, education, and training initiatives that promote human rights, democracy, the rule of law, independent media, and United States of America's engagement in international affairs.

Finally, Freedom House's annual standard-setting publications draw attention to global trends in democracy, cast a public light upon dictatorships, and are regularly used as references by journalists worldwide, policymakers, nongovernmental organizations, and the United States government.

Freedom House Reports and Publications

a) Freedom of the World is an annual survey on the state of political rights and civil liberties in each of the world's 193 countries. The survey's methodology is based on the Universal Declaration of Human rights. First published in 1972, the publication plays a uniquely influential role in policymaking and intellectual circles, and its findings are used and referenced by government officials, members of Congress, and the press in debates about United States foreign policy and current events. *Freedom in the World* rankings for political rights and civil liberties are used as official criteria by the Millennium Challenge Corporation, a foreign assistance agency of the United States government.

b) Freedom of the Press: A Global Survey of Media Independence covers trends in media freedom in every country in the world. The survey rates the level of press freedom in each country on a numerical basis and provides a brief written summary of the year's main developments. These summaries include information on the legal environment for press freedom, political influences on content, and economic pressures that restrict the operation of independent media.

c) Nations in Transit: Now in its twelfth edition, *Nations in Transit* (NIT) is a comprehensive survey of political reform in the post-Communist world. NIT is used by the State Department of the United States of America in determining foreign assistance priorities, and its findings are widely debated and discussed by the press and government officials, both in the United States of America as well as in the countries examined by the survey.

d) Countries at the Crossroads: This is a survey of governance performance in 60 strategically important countries worldwide that are at a critical crossroads in determining their political future. The survey stresses such issues as the rule of law, official corruption and accountability, and gives recommendations for future developments.

e) How Freedom Is Won: Released in spring 2005, this study examines political transitions since 1972, based on the 32-year time series and narrative data of the *Freedom in the World* survey. The report was published in collaboration with the International Center on Non-Violent Conflict. The study's key findings—that transitions from authoritarian regimes succeed in creating freer societies when broad-based, non-violent civic movements have been a key factor in the transition—have been the source of discussions in a series of conferences in the United States and Europe and have provoked comment in the *Economist* and *Financial Times*.

Freedom House Programs

Freedom House runs an array of programs that support democracy and human rights advocates around the world to strengthen freedom and human rights in their countries.

a) Uzbekistan: Freedom House supports human rights defenders from Uzbekistan through training and networking activities. In 2006, Freedom House brought a delegation of Uzbek human rights defenders to Geneva to meet with Geneva-based NGOs and United Nations representatives in order to prepare them for their submission of an alternative report to present before the Committee against Torture in its 39th session, 5-23 November 2007, when the Uzbek government presented its report.

b) Islamic Republic of Iran/Gozaar Project: In 2006, Freedom House launched the English/Iranian webzine '*Gozaar*' ('transition'), an online magazine focused on the promotion of democracy and human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran. *Gozaar* provides space for the exchange of ideas related to the theory and practice of democracy, aims to revitalize public debate on democratic reform in the Islamic Republic of Iran, and stimulates the production of new, original writing on democracy and a prospective democratic transition in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

c) Democratic People's Republic of Korea: Freedom House, along with its Asian and European partners, has remained resolute on continuing to raise awareness of the egregious human rights violations occurring in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The organization held high-profile international conferences in Rome ("Promoting Human Rights and Religious Freedom in North Korea: Where do we go from here?", 12 July 2006), Seoul ("SEOUL SUMMIT: Promoting Human Rights in North Korea," 8-10 December 2005) and Brussels (internationa. platform for human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, 22 March 2006) and collaborated with other advocacy groups focused on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. In October 2006, Freedom House advocated for and promoted the United States premier of "Yoduk Story," a musical about an infamous political prison camp in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in Bethesda, Maryland (4-6 October) and Los Angeles, California (19-22 October), the United States of America.

d) The American Committee for Peace in the Caucasus (ACPC): This Freedom House project is devoted to protecting the diverse cultures and peoples who are threatened by the spread of violence in the North Caucasus, as a result of the ongoing war in Chechnya, Russian Federation, and outbreaks of violence elsewhere in the region. The Committee seeks to expand the international support networks for human rights defenders and local nongovernmental organizations that are at risk of becoming further isolated from the international community.

II. Contribution of the Organization to the Work of the United Nations

i) Freedom House in Geneva: As a nongovernmental organization accredited to the United Nations Economic and Social Council, Freedom House frequently participates in human rights meetings in Geneva. Its activities are inspired by a commitment to the values of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. During 2003, 2004 and 2005, Freedom House sent delegations to Geneva to attend the 59th, 60th and 61st sessions of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights. During these meetings, Freedom House presented the findings of its "Worst of the Worst," a listing of the world's most repressive regimes. The delegation also raised the issue of the persecution of human rights activists in some societies, and met with Commission members, United Nations Special Rapporteurs and government delegates in order to provide them with information on human rights issues.

In 2006, in response to Secretary-General Kofi Annan's stated intention to reform the United Nations' human rights machinery, Freedom House was very engaged in the effort to create a new United Nations Human Rights Council in place of the former Commission on Human Rights. Freedom House advocated for a stronger mechanism for membership in the Council, as well as a structure that would genuinely promote human rights worldwide. In September 2006, Freedom House sent a delegation to Geneva for the Council's second session, which took place during 18 September to 6 October 2006. The group hosted a panel event on 25 September 2006, "Freedom of Association: International Backlash against NGOs, and the Role The United Nations Democracy Caucus Should Play to Defend It," highlighting human rights activists from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Viet Nam, and Algeria, and met with Special Rapporteurs, as well as government delegates.

iii) Community of Democracies (*United Nations Democracy Caucus*): The Community of Democracies is an international coalition of democratic states dedicated to strengthening democratic values and institutions. Freedom House has been actively engaged in the Community of Democracies (CD) process since its official launch in Warsaw, Poland in June 2000, and helped to organize the first nongovernmental forum so that civil society could also participate in the CD process. Together with the Democracy Coalition Project and the Transnational Radical Party of Italy, Freedom House continued to work to strengthen the Community of Democracies process in 2004 - 2006 by conducting individual meetings with representatives of member states, as well as by issuing press releases and reports on the topic. Together with the Transnational Radical Party and the Democracy Coalition Project, Freedom House hosted an off-the-record discussion "Challenges and Priorities Facing the United Nations Democracy Caucus," in New York on 18 September 2006.

3. Fund of Aid for Youth

(Special; 2003)

Introductory statement

Registered under the Ministry of Justice in 1994, according to 10 November 1992 dated "Concerning Public Entities" law of Azerbaijan; The Fund of Aid for Youth (FAY) has been acting according to Azerbaijan's related legislation, international law norms and in line with these regulations. Being a voluntary social community, "The Fund of Aid for Youth" was created with the purpose of meeting moral needs of the youth, getting busy with the education of children's manners, lending physical and moral hand to youngsters and their families who suffered from the war.

Main purposes and objectives

For a better future and in order for the youth to develop morally or strengthen their manners, the Fund of Aid for Youth has been doing its utmost since 1994 by giving material support to the youth, the elderly, handicapped, vulnerable, refugees, internally displaced persons and in general those in great need.

1. Create project and/or programmes useful to the needs of youth, refugees and internally displaced people who suffered from the war which resulted a million Azerbaijanis to flee their homelands.

2. Improve knowledge, computer, language (Arabic, English), accounting skills of the youth.

3. Solve students' problems those in line with accommodation.

4. Develop moral values within youth and as well as the elderly.

5. Launch youth training programmes for both intellectual and professional development of youngsters.

6. Conduct meetings concerning current problems people are facing in educational areas and the way to solve them.

7. Maintain close contacts with international and regional organizations.

8. Launch or support in organizing international and regional level conferences, seminars and etc.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

1. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings:

1) Participation in seminar on "Watch on Narcotics in South Caucasus" organized by United Nations Development Programme in Azerbaijan, European Union and Azerbaijan; 24-26 April 2003, Baku, Azerbaijan.

2) "United Nations Non-Governmental Organizations Informal Regional Network; UN-NGO-IRENE Azerbaijan and Caspian Region Capacity building Meetings"; the FAY was one of the organizers of that conference, 25-28 November 2004, Baku, Azerbaijan.

3) High Level Consultation and Capacity Building Meeting for the United Nations Non-Governmental Informal Regional Network (UN-NGO-IRENE) in Turkey. Follow-up to Caspian (Caucasian/Central Asia) and Partnership with Balkan Non-Governmental organizations, 28 to 30 September 2005, Bursa, Turkey.

2. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters.

Technical assistance to implementation of programmes of United Nations and some other specialized agencies, such as giving conference hall to their service including all facilities required for a professional performance throughout the reporting period.

3. Initiatives undertaken by the organization in support of internationally agreed development goals, in particular, the Millennium Development Goals.

1) Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

The organization contributed to the Millennium Development Goals in the following geographical region: Azerbaijan and Pakistan.

Goal 1. Eradicate poverty and hunger/Target 2. Halve the proportion of people who suffer from hunger

Actions (contributions on an annual basis during the reporting period):

- Children given assistance and care=1,700
- The number of different types of food aids delivered to the needy=5,665
- People delivered meat packages on Qurban holiday=48,300
- The elderly given aid packages=100
- Aid distributed in health sector=53
- The handicapped given wheelchairs=250
- People daily given (30 days) Ramadan iftars (breaking the Ramadan fast) =850
- Low-income and 20-January martyr families given food aid=637
- Aid given to those suffered from earthquake in Pakistan=United States Dollar 1,545

Goal 2. Achieve universal primary education/Target 3. Ensure that all boys and girls complete a full course of a primary schooling

- Students given education fees=20
- Students given monthly stipends=252
- Schoolchildren given school bags=2,704

2) Activities in Support of Global Principles

At the international level

- Organizer of foundation of Islamic Conference Youth Forum (ICYF) along with NAYORA-National Assembly of Youth Organizations of Azerbaijan and 57 country NGO representatives, 2-4 December 2004, Baki Azerbaijan.
- Participation in Ceremony for Inauguration of the Islamic Conference Youth Forum for Dialogue and Cooperation Headquarters, 3 September 2006, Istanbul, Turkey.
- Organizer in the training of Islamic Conference Youth Forum for Dialogue and Cooperation, "Training of trainers in leadership skills for youth organizations of the Organization of Islamic Conference countries", 15-17 November, 2006, Baki, Azerbaijan.

At the regional level

- Participation in festival "Solidarity Day of World Azerbaijanis", presented Honorary Degree, 25 December 2006, Baki, Azerbaijan.
- Participation in the workshop with "Save the Children", 30-31 May 2006, Baki, Azerbaijan.
- Technical assistance to event for orphan children of Dar Al Ber International Humanitarian Organization of The United Arab Emirates, 14 May 2006, Baki, Azerbaijan.
- Together with the Ministry of Youth and Sports of Azerbaijan; Participation in seminar on "Qualification of student self-governance structure in high educational Institutes", 17 April 2006, Baki, Azerbaijan.

4. International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development

(Special; 1995)

PART I. INTRODUCTION

1. Aims and purposes and main course of action:

The International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development (Rights & Democracy) is a non-partisan Canadian institution created by an Act of Parliament in 1988. It has a mandate to promote, advocate and defend internationally the democratic and human rights set out in the United Nations International Bill of Human Rights. In cooperation with civil society and governments in Canada and abroad, Rights & Democracy implements and supports programmes to strengthen laws and democratic institutions, principally in developing countries.

Rights & Democracy works at the national, regional and international levels. Its expertise is concentrated on the themes of democratic development, women's rights, the rights of indigenous peoples and economic and social rights. It also addresses several other issues related to its mandate:

the strengthening of United Nations and regional human rights mechanisms, the defence of civil liberties in the context of the war against terrorism and the impact of religious fundamentalisms on human rights. Rights & Democracy works in the priority countries identified in its strategic plan for 2005-2010. Its priority countries are: Afghanistan, Bolivia, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Haiti, Indonesia, Jordan, Morocco, Myanmar, Sudan and Zimbabwe. Some of these countries are new to our programming, while in others Rights & Democracy has been working for several years. Rights & Democracy also works at the regional level, at the Organization of American States and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, and at the international level, where it follows the work of the Human Rights Council and its special mechanisms.

In all cases, Rights & Democracy works with civil society partners, public institutions and international organizations internationally and in Canada.

Rights & Democracy receives most of its funding (approximately 85%) from Canada's Overseas Development Assistance Budget through Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada and the Canadian International Development Agency. Each year, the Chair of the Board of Directors submits a report on the activities of Rights & Democracy to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, who tables it in Parliament. The financial accounts and transactions are examined annually by the Auditor General of Canada. Rights & Democracy is a non-profit charitable organization.

ii. Changes since the last quadrennial report

Rights & Democracy's legal basis (the 1988 Act of Parliament) remained the same. The most notable changes that had a significant impact on Rights & Democracy's vision and programming were the launch in 2003 of the Rights & Democracy Student Network, and the launch in 2006 of the Canadian and International Partnerships Initiative. Rights & Democracy also changed the focus of the priority countries where it works. For example, we stopped working in Mexico and Guatemala but initiated programmes and projects in the Sudan, Côte d'Ivoire, Zimbabwe and Afghanistan.

The Rights & Democracy Student Network continues to grow. Now in its fourth year, it has close to 1500 members and some 40 Delegations in Canada and abroad. The Network's goal is to broaden university students' knowledge of human rights and democracy and to develop their capacity for contributing to their attainment. Over 30 projects from Delegations have received Network support over the last year.

The launch in 2006 of the Canadian and International Partnerships Initiative was informed by the fact that the implementation of international human rights and democratic development makes it necessary for like-minded organizations around the world to develop and maintain strategic and complementary links with one another, particularly to coordinate programming objectives and projects in priority countries. Institutional partnerships and annual workplans have been concluded by Rights & Democracy with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the Danish Institute for Human Rights (DIHR), the Human Rights Unit of the Commonwealth Secretariat, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for the launch of the Canadian campaign on the

Millennium Development Goals under the name "8 Goals for a Better World", Equitas (formerly the Canadian Foundation for Human Rights), the Canadian Association of Statutory Human Rights Commissions (CASHRA), and the North-South Institute (NSI). Rights & Democracy is also part of a number of international coalitions focused on human rights and democratic development.

PART II. CONTRIBUTION TO THE WORK OF THE UNITED NATIONS

i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings

a. United Nations Commission on Human Rights (UNCHR) and Human Rights Council (HRC)

During the period from 2003 to 2006, Rights & Democracy actively participated in United Nations human rights meetings in the areas covered by its programmes. Representatives of Rights & Democracy attended and participated in the 59th (17 March to 25 April 2003), 60th (15 March to 23 April 2004), 61st (14 March to 22 April 2005), and the 62nd (13-27 March 2006) sessions of the Commission on Human Rights in Geneva. Rights & Democracy also sent representatives to all the regular sessions of the Human Rights Council in 2006 (1st session from 19-30 June 2006, the 2nd session from 18 September to 6 October 2006 and 27-29 November 2006, and the 3rd session from 29 November to 8 December 2006). Information on these sessions and activities was provided by Rights & Democracy to all its partners.

b. Major conferences

In collaboration with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights' National Institutions Unit, Rights & Democracy co-sponsored, co-organized and sent participants to the 8th International Conference of National Human Rights Institutions in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, from 23-27 October 2006.

c. United Nations Working Group on Indigenous Populations (UNWGIP) and Permanent Forum

During the period from 2003 to 2006, representatives of Rights & Democracy attended and participated in the 21st (21-25 July 2003), 22nd (19-23 July 2004), 23rd (18-22 July 2005), and 24th (30 July to 4 August 2006) sessions of the UNWGIP in Geneva. Rights & Democracy also sent representatives to and participated in the 2nd (12-23 May 2003), 3rd (10-21 May 2004), 4th (16-27 May 2005) and 5th (15-26 May 2006) sessions of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in New York. Rights & Democracy supported the Untied Nations Draft Declaration on Indigenous Peoples. To help advance the negotiations, Rights & Democracy organized a technical seminar on the Declaration, in collaboration with the Inuit Circumpolar Conference and the Grand Council of the Crees, in Montréal from August 10 to 13, 2005. Rights & Democracy also supports the United Nations Declaration on Indigenous Peoples Rights that has been adopted by the Human Rights Council on 29 June 2006.

ii) Cooperation with United Nations Bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

a. Cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

In 2006, Rights & Democracy concluded 3-year partnership with the OHCHR for an amount of CAN$ 200,000 per year. These funds have been allocated to strengthening and organization joint projects with the OHCHR's National Institutions Unit, to support the Rapid Response Unit, and to support the newly launched Human Rights Fellowship Programme for Students from the Least Developed Countries. Rights & Democracy also provided interns to the OHCHR's Resource Mobilization Unit and its National Institutions Unit in 2006. In 2007, we will open an office in Geneva to, *inter alia*, better follow the work of the Human Rights Council.

b. Cooperation with the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

With the cooperation of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Rights & Democracy organized the *International Expert Seminar on Best practices for the Implementation the Recommendations of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people* in Montreal, Canada, on 5-7 October 2006. The report entitled "*Indigenous Rights – The United Nations Special Rapporteur – Experience and challenges*" was scheduled to be published by Rights & Democracy and others in the Winter of 2007.

c. Cooperation with the Special Rapporteur on the Violence Against Women

From 2004 to 2006, Rights & Democracy supported the work of Yakın Ertürk, United Nations Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women. This work will continue in the forthcoming years.

iii) Initiatives undertaken by the organization in support of internationally agreed development goals, in particular the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

In cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme, Rights & Democracy initiated in 2006 a Canadian youth campaign under the banner "8 Goals for a Better World" to promote the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals. The Campaign includes a number of Canadian NGOs active in the field of human rights and focuses on Youth empowerment. Rights & Democracy also organized a conference in Ottawa entitled "Implementing the MDGs: Our Human Rights Obligations" on 8-9 June 2005, which led to the publication of a conference report with the same title.

5. International Longevity Center

(Special; 1999)

PART I. Introduction

Mission and Activities

The International Longevity Center (ILC-USA) is a non-partisan policy, research and education organization whose mission is to help societies address longevity and population aging in positive and productive ways and highlight older people's contributions to their families and society as a whole. The organization is part of a multinational research and education consortium, which includes centers in the United States of America, Japan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, France, the Netherlands, Argentina, India, South Africa and the Dominican Republic. These centers work collaboratively to study how increasing life expectancy and proportions of older people impact nations around the world. Establishment of similar centers in more countries is under active consideration now.

To accomplish its mission, the Center carries out a series of activities consisting of interdisciplinary research, educational programs and media briefings in the key areas of health, work, family and multigenerational relations. Further, it fosters advocacy as well as public awareness about the impact of longevity and population ageing on the economy and society.

Significant Organizational Changes

During the past 4 years (2003-2006) the network of centers added International Longevity Centers in India, South Africa, Argentina and the Netherlands significantly extending our network around the world.

Part II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

• **International Institute on Ageing – United Nations, May 2006, Malta**. Senior Associate of the ILC served as visiting Professor at the International Short Training Program in Medical Gerontology.

• **Supporting the Functioning of Contributive Elders (SUFFICE), March 2006, Cape Town, South Africa**. An ILC Senior Associate collaborated with the **Albertina and Walter Sisulu Institute of Ageing in Africa** within the Division of Geriatric Medicine, **University of Cape Town** and the **Stroud Center for Geriatrics and Gerontology** within the Mailman School of Public Health at **Columbia University** in New York on this project. The objectives are to highlight the role of older people as caregivers and heads of households in communities ravaged by the HIV/AIDS epidemic in South Africa. The project's overall goal is to introduce into the health and social services as well as influential administrative and policy bodies a larger perspective such that the value of services to elders is understood not only as a proper benefit to the elder but also as a benefit to the elder's community of all ages.

• **The Harold Hatch Lecture in Geriatrics and Gerontology, 9 February 2006, New York, United States of America**. The ILC hosted the annual lecture read by Professor Sir Michael Marmot under the title "Why Care? How Status Affects Our Health and Longevity". This lecture's topic, speaker and event were supportive of the Millennium Development Goals, in particular Goals 1 and 3.

• **Whitehouse Conference on Aging, 10-14 December 2005, Washington D.C, United States of America**. ILC-USA President presented at the closing plenary session of this important decennial event aimed at making aging policy recommendations to the President and Congress of the United States of America, and to assist the public and private sectors in promoting dignity, health, independence and economic security of current and future generations of older persons.

• **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Paris, France, 8 December 2005**. ILC co-hosted with 21st Century Talks and The Division of Foresight, Philosophy and Human Sciences at UNESCO the "Colloquium: Do Health & Longevity Create Wealth?"

• **The Harold Hatch Lecture in Geriatrics and Gerontology, 2 May 2005, at the Institute Alliance Francaise, Tinker Hall, New York, United States of America**. The ILC hosted the annual lecture read by Bernard Kouchner, M.D. founder of Doctors without Borders, and then French Secretary of State. Dr. Kouchner presented "The Triumph of Survival," discussing the great achievements of public health and medicine over the past century as well as the needs of the current era especially given the realities of the longevity revolution.

Research and publications

What follows is a sample of significant publications in support of the work by the United Nations during the time period covered by this quadrennial report:

2006: Ageism in America; Do Health and Longevity Create Wealth?; Caregiving in America; Alzheimer's: The Disease of the Century

2005: Intergenerational Connections; Volunteer Programs for Older Adult sin the Arts and Humanities; The Aging European Workforce

2004: Thoughts on Population Growth and Productivity; Redesigning Health Care for an Older America: Seven Guiding Principles; The Future of Ageism

2003: Emergency Preparedness for Older People

A full list of publications is available from our website at www.ilcusa.org.

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Quadrennial reports for the period 2003-2006 submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council through the Secretary-General pursuant to Council resolution 1996/31*

Note by the Secretary-General

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1. Association for Progressive Communications

(General; 1995)

PART I. Introduction

The Association For Progressive Communications (APC) believes in a world in which all people have easy, equal and affordable access to the creative potential of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) to improve their lives and create more democratic and egalitarian societies. APC is a global network of non- governmental organisations whose mission is to empower and support organisations, social movements and individuals in and through the use of information and communication technologies to build strategic communities and initiatives for the purpose of making meaningful contributions to equitable human development, social justice, participatory political processes and environmental sustainability.

APC's activities for the period of the report were guided by three strategic priorities:

- Promoting and facilitating strategic use of ICTs by civil society organisations (CSOs).

- Strengthening CSOs role and engagement in ICT policy processes.

- Growing and strengthening the network of CSOs promoting the use of ICTs for social justice and development.

These priorities and actions are crosscut by two additional themes: (a) A commitment to sustainable development and (b) a commitment to gender equality and women's empowerment activities are implemented in three programme areas: (1) Communications and Information Policy; (2) Strategic Uses and (3) Capacity Building and APC Women's Networking Support Programme (APC WNSP).

Membership

APC's membership is global with members in Europe, Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean and North America. At 31 December 2006, APC had 46 members in 38 countries.

Changes in Funding

During this reporting period (2003-2006), APC's funding orientation shifted from project funding to core (programme) funding. APC has been able to secure core funding from government donors, which enabled the organisation to implement most of its 2004-2008 action plan. Membership dues make up approximately 1-2% of APC's income.

PART II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings.

APC participated in the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) process from 2001 to 2005. APC participated in almost all of the preparatory, regional and associated events during the process. Due to space restrictions, this report only contains information about Preparatory meetings and Summits that APC participated in. A full list of WSIS related events can be found on the APC

website. Our objectives were to (a) support increased involvement of civil society (particularly civil society from the global south) in the WSIS process generally, and (b) advocate a broad human rights and gender-equality based approach to 'information society' issues.

World Summit on the Information Society 2003-2006

Preparatory Committee meeting (PrepCom)-2: 17-28 February 2003, Geneva (Switzerland). APC facilitated several civil society caucuses the main plenary, made verbal interventions, participated in drafting of CSO documents. Launched "Involving Civil Society in ICT Policy: the World Summit on the Information Society" (APC/CRIS).

Intersessional Meeting between PrepCom-2 and PrepCom-3: 15-18 July 2003, Paris (France) APC facilitated several civil society caucuses and the main plenary, made verbal interventions, participated in drafting of CSO documents, prepared two submissions on the Draft Declaration and Action Plan.

PrepCom-3: 15-26 September 2003, 10-14 November 2003, 5-6 December 2003, and 9 December 2003, Geneva (Switzerland). APC facilitated several civil society caucuses and the main plenary, made verbal interventions, participated in drafting of CSO documents and participated in the ICT4D Pavilion.

World Summit on the Information Society, First Phase: 10-12 December 2003, Geneva (Switzerland). APC facilitated several civil society caucuses the main plenary, made verbal interventions, participated in drafting of the CSO Declaration "Shaping Information Societies for Human Needs".

PrepCom-1: 24-26 June 2004, Hammamet (Tunisia). Participation in caucuses and drafting of CSO documents. Report produced: "World Summit on the Information Society Phase II Tunis PrepCom I Report, 23-26 June 2004", Karen Banks (APC).

PrepCom-2:17-25 February 2005, Geneva (Switzerland). APC made verbal and written interventions on the two main themes – Financing ICT for Development and Internet Governance.

APC was nominated to participate in two Working Groups convened by the United Nations Secretary General in relation to both of these themes. Three thematic papers were commissioned based on the WSIS Phase Two priorities (1) E-strategies and the World Summit on the Information Society, Willie Currie (May 2004); (2) Financing the Information Society in the South: A global public goods perspective, Pablo Accuosto (ITeM) and Niki Johnson (June 2004).

3) Internet Governance and the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), Adam Peake, (June 2004)

PrepCom-3: 19-30 September 2005, Geneva (Switzerland) and 13-15 November 2005, Tunis (Tunisia) APC participated in caucuses and drafted interventions.

Second Phase of the WSIS, 16-18 November 2005, Tunis (Tunisia). APC prepared substantive input on Internet Governance: "World Summit on the Information Society: APC's Recommendation on Internet Governance", by Association for Progressive Communications (APC).

16 May, Joint Facilitation Meeting on WSIS Action Lines C2, C4, and C6. Geneva (Switzerland). APC participated as joint coordinator with UNDP of these action lines.

21-25 May, Tenth Session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development. Geneva (Switzerland) APC made verbal and written interventions. APC launched the first edition of "Global Information Society Watch".

23 May, Internet Governance Forum (IGF) consultation meeting. APC made verbal and written interventions.

United Nations ICT Task Force: APC coordinated the ICT policy group of the United Nations ICT TF during this period and participated in the following meetings:

21–22 February 2003, 4th United Nations ICT Task Force Meeting, Geneva, (Switzerland).

12–13 September 2003, 5th United Nations ICT Task Force Meeting, Geneva, (Switzerland)

25-26 March 2004: 6th United Nations ICT Task Force Meeting, New York

19-20 November 2004: 7th United Nations ICT Task Force Meeting, Berlin, (Germany)

13–15 April 2005: 8th United Nations ICT Task Force Eighth Meeting, Dublin, (Ireland)

September 2005: Civil Society in 'WSIS: A rite of passage', in United Nations ICT Task Force Series 8

Commission on the Status of Women: APC WNSP Prepared side events and participated in hi-level round tables in the following meetings:

3-14 March 2003: 47th Session, New York

1-12 March 2004: 48th Session, New York

28 February-11 March 2005: 49th Session, New York

Other meetings

APC participated in many other United Nations meetings (including meetings of regional commissions, the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO), the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), the Beijing+10 review and the Millennium Development Goal hearings), but due to space constraints we are unable to provide information in this report.

Please see the APC website for a full list of events.

ii) **Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters.**

14 July 2003: APC WNSP was commissioned to write the background paper for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Expert Group Meeting on Gender Issues, Paris, France.

10-14 January 2005: Strengthening the capacity of national machineries through the effective use of ICTs, United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW)/United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

1-7 June 2005: World Bank Consultancy by the APC WNSP, Indonesia.

September 2005: APC WNSP coordinator authored: 'Women 2000 and Beyond: Gender Equality in Information and Communication Technologies', compiled by the United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women (United Nations DAW), with the collaboration of Sonia Jorge, Nancy Hafkin and Chat Garcia Ramilo, United Nations DAW, New York.

October 2005: APC WNSP coordinator authored: 'Information and Communication Technologies for Rural Development: Issues and Options', the World Bank East Asia and Pacific Region Rural Development and Natural Resources Sector. Chat Garcia Ramilo was a member of the consultant team that developed 'Engendering Rural Information Systems in Indonesia', The World Bank website.

2. European Youth Forum

(Special; 1999)

PART I. Introduction

The Mission of the European Youth Forum (YFJ) is to work to empower young people to participate actively in the shaping of Europe and the societies in which they live, and in improving the living conditions of young people as European citizens in today's world. For this reason the European Youth Forum has also a wider scope in promoting global cooperation within its Member Organizations and other Regional Youth Platforms. Independently established by youth organisations, the European Youth Forum is made up of more than 90 National Youth Councils and International Non-Governmental Youth Organisations, which are federations of youth organisations in themselves. It brings together tens of millions of young people from all over Europe, organised in order to represent their common interests. The main principles for the functioning of YFJ and its Member Organisations are representation, internal democracy, independence, openness and inclusion.

PART II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

At the level of the United Nations Secretariat, the Youth Forum's interlocutor is the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA). The Objectives of YFJ towards the United Nations are: to promote and support the participation of Non Governmental Youth Organisations in the prioritised institutions working on the global level; to promote quality and concerted input to prioritised processes affecting youth; to promote the co-ordination of working at the global level; to support and develop mechanisms and spaces for dialogue between the prioritised institutions working on the global level and Non Governmental Youth Organisations; to promote the contribution of Non Governmental Youth Organisations to the implementation of the aims agreed by governments (Development Aid, Millennium Declaration, World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond-WPAY 2000).

i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings

1. Participation to the Commission on Social Development, New York, 10-21 February 2003: The YFJ presented a statement on behalf of ten International Non Governmental Youth Organisations and followed up the issue of the replacement of the Youth Unit with the Youth Focal Point at the United Nations Secretariat.

2. Participation to the Commission on Social Development, New York, 9-18 February 2005, in which YFJ presented the outcomes of the 10 year review of the World Programme of Action for Youth Consultative Meeting, 31 January- 3 February 2005, Coimbra, Portugal, under the agenda point "Review of the 10 years of implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth".

3. Participation to the Commission on Social Development, New York, 8-17 February 2006.

ii) Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies in the field and at Headquarters

1. Implementation of World Program of Action for Youth (WPAY): Between 2003 and 2005 YFJ promoted the implementation at Global, Regional and National level of the WPAY. In particular YFJ promoted the involvement of Youth Organizations and National Youth Councils to submit the National Reports for the Evaluation process. A meeting to review the World Programme of Action for Youth took place in Coimbra, Portugal, from 31 January to 3 February, 2005. YFJ participated and facilitated the cluster on "Youth in Civil Society", devoted to Environment, Leisure Time, Youth Participation on Decision-Making processes, Information and Communication Technologies and Inter-generational Relations. YFJ reported the outcomes of this meeting at the 43rd session of the Commission on Social Development, New York, 9-18 February 2005.

2. Cooperation with the World Bank. Between 2003 and 2006 YFJ started a dialogue with the World Bank on Youth and Development issues. In particular YFJ participated to a first preparatory meeting convened by the World Bank and the World Organization of the Scout Movement in Athens, 22-23 March 2003. Two Conferences on Youth for Development and Peace (YDP) were co-organised by YFJ the World Bank and the World Organization of the Scout Movement (Paris, France, 15-16 September 2003 Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 5-7 September 2004), and YFJ was member of the Steering Group of the YDP Network between 2005-2006. The YFJ participated in this period to the drafting process of the Children and Youth Strategy of the World Bank. In 2006, the YFJ prepared and sent a contribution for the World Development Report 2007.

3. Cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organisation: In November 2005 the YFJ participated to the attempt to revitalise the World Youth Forum against Hunger and Poverty, in connection with the World Food Day. The process is currently on hold.

4. Cooperation with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF): The YFJ participated to the Ministerial Conference "Breaking the Barriers – Partnership to fight HIV/AIDS in Europe and Central Asia" Dublin, Ireland, 23-24 February 2005. YFJ co-facilitated the Youth Consultation process and to nominate youth organisations to participate in the preparation process for the Conference.

5. Youth Employment Network: Between 2001 and 2004, the YFJ was involved in the United Nations Secretary General's Youth Employment Network Initiative (YEN). On 12 September 2004,

the "Youth Consultative Group" (YCG) of YEN was established and composed according to a rotational basis, the YFJ was included in the Group.

iii) Other meetings:

1. Membership, between 2003 and 2004, to the NGO Committee on Youth of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations (CONGO) in Geneva. The Non-Governmental Organisations Committee on Youth is a space for exchanging information about Economic and Social Council and United Nations processes and for facilitating and coordinating the work of Non-Governmental Youth Organisations towards United Nations processes and Agencies in Geneva.

2. Participation to the process towards a Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) towards the CONGO, between 2003 and 2004. The process did not lead to the permanent establishment of the YAC.

3. Participation to the process towards the World Summit on Information Society (WSIS) and Participation to the WSIS in Geneva, 10-12 December 2003.

4. Participation to the United Nations General Assemblies between 2003 and 2006 (3-5 October 2003, 6-13 October 2004, 10-16 October 2005, 5-11 October 2006). In relation to the United Nations General Assembly, the Youth Forum participated and co-organised the co-ordination for European Youth Delegates to the General Assembly.

iv) Initiatives undertaken by the organization in support the Millennium Development Goals, which now form the basis of the global agenda for 21st century

1. 1% Solidarity Fund: YFJ devotes on an annual basis the 1% of its budget to Projects run by youth organizations in other continents which contribute to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). In particular the projects were falling under the Goal No. 8 (Develop a global partnership for development), by promoting the reinforcement of the capacity of Regional Youth Platforms to act as umbrella organisations at Continental level to organise the Youth Sector of Civil Society and advocate Global, Regional and National Institutions to implement the World Programme on Action for Youth, in particular its measures which are closely linked with the achievement of the others MDGs.

2. University on Youth and Development 2003-2006. YFJ is co-organiser of the annual University on Youth and Development, organised by the North-South Centre of Council of Europe, the Spanish Government and the Spanish Youth Council. The University was organised every year on the first week of October in Mollina, Spain. Each year the University was devoted to the contribution of youth organisations to the achievement of the MDGs, through training actions and networking between young people from different continents.

3. YFJ signed in 2005 a Memorandum of Understanding with the United Nations concerning the implementation of the Millennium Campaign on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), committing to promote them towards the institutional advocacy and concrete projects on the field by Member Organizations.

iv) Activities in support of global principles

1. YFJ has been the promoter of a pan-European campaign on Diversity, Human Rights and Participation which was run by the Council of Europe in 29 June 2006 under the slogan "All Different, All Equal"

2. YFJ participated to the actions undertaken in the frame of the International Day against Poverty, taking place globally on the 17 December 2006.

3. HelpAge International

(General; 1995)

Contribution of HelpAge International (HAI) to the work of the United Nations 2003-2006

Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings

HelpAge International has a vision of a world in which all older people fulfil their potential to lead dignified, healthy and secure lives. HelpAge International is a global network striving for the rights of disadvantaged older people to economic and physical security, healthcare and social services, and support in their care giving role across the generations.

During the reporting period HelpAge International (HAI) attended the 41st, 42nd, 43rd and 44th sessions of the Commission for Social Development, making a statement and organising or participating in side events at each of them. These events included 'Civil Society approaches to Policy monitoring' (at the 41st session 10-21 February 2003), 'Modalities for review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing' (at the 42nd session 4-13 2004) and 'Protecting and assisting older people in emergencies' (at the 44th session 8-17 February 2006).

In October, November, December 2003 and February 2004 HAI was invited as 'expert' to four follow-up meetings convened by the United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) to review progress in implementation of Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA). A workshop on 'Ageing and Poverty: implications for national poverty policies and achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in Eastern and Central Africa', was held in Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania on 29-31 October 2003, jointly organized by UNDESA and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania, in association with HelpAge International. Twelve African governments met with representatives of the International Labour Organization (ILO), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to discuss mainstreaming ageing into poverty policy.

Results from the Inter-regional Consultative Meeting on implementation and follow-up of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (Vienna, Austria, 8-10 December 2003), included a commitment of the five participating governments to mainstream ageing in all social and development policy, including the Poverty Reduction Strategy paper (PRSP) programmes and also support attention to age in analysis of MDG programmes. As a result of HAI's contribution to the Expert group meeting on modalities for review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (Malta, 10-12 November 2003) the HAI Policy Manager was invited to speak on a panel on

this subject at the 42nd session of the Commission for Social Development in New York in February 2004.

Cooperation with UN bodies and specialized agencies

In the reporting period HAI participated in a number of activities with the Focal Point on Ageing in the United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs. In addition to those noted elsewhere in this report, from 2004 HAI had inputted to the design and development of a capacity building project with UNDESA to support governments to mainstream ageing into their development programmes.

Agreement was reached in 2003 with UNDP to write a 'practice note' on ageing. Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers and the Millennium Development Goals for internal circulation to UNDP programme offices. HAI was invited to co-author a note with UNDP on older people, poverty and rights based approaches which would guide analysis by UNDP staff on the importance of including ageing in order to achieve Millennium Development Goals targets.

During 2003 work with United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) researchers provided valuable data on the impact of HIV/AIDS on older-headed households in Africa. Collaboration with ILO has been strengthened throughout the reporting period through the work on social protection and universal cash transfers, which has included joint presentations at the 41st, 42nd, 43rd and 44th sessions of the Commission for Social Development, participating in a UNICEF-funded review of the impact of cash transfers on orphans and vulnerable children (OVCs) in Southern Africa, together with Save the Children Fund, which will be used to guide UNICEF's work with national governments on targeting children and their (older) carers in future OVC work. In 2005 HelpAge International was invited into the Global Partners' Forum on OVCs and the related Inter-Agency Task Team, led by UNICEF. Also in 2005 HAI collaborated with UNICEF and the Ministry of Women and Social Action (MMAS) in Mozambique on a strategy for orphaned and vulnerable children. UNICEF recognised the importance of the role of older people in child protection (as an issue for both children and older people in emergencies) and in 2004-2005 HAI carried out research funded by UNICEF in Darfur, the Sudan. In 2005 UNICEF funded and partnered with HAI in a project in Mozambique to reduce the impact of HIV/AIDS on children and older people by strengthening community awareness, community and individual coping mechanisms in Tete and Gaza Provinces.

Ongoing awareness raising and interactions with UNAIDS (both at United Nations headquarters and in the regions) meant that the UNAIDS report 2004, for the first time, referred to older people, highlighting their role as caregivers of orphans and vulnerable children and referring to HAI and its partners' work in Mozambique and Thailand. In 2006 HAI's recommendation to collect and disaggregate data by age and sex was included in a UNAIDS Secretariat paper on actions to overcome obstacles to universal access to treatment, care, prevention and support at the country level. The UNAIDS 2006 global report acknowledges that a substantial proportion of People Living with HIV & AIDS (PLWAs) are 50 years and over. UNAIDS and the World Health Organization will from now on present estimates for all adults 15 and over, rather than 15-49 as previously.

In 2004 engagement between HAI and the United Nations Economic and Social Council for Asia and the Pacific resulted in its Subcommittee on Health and Development approving a resolution focused on HIV/AIDS, recognising the role and contributions made by older people as care givers.

The United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) designated 2005 for prioritisation of ageing and disability issues in their programming and HAI seconded a staff member to UNHCR in West Darfur to focus on the protection of older people. Contact with the Food and Agriculture organisation was developed in 2003 when HAI expertise was sought for an internal workshop on ageing and development, and further contact has been agreed through sharing of resources and expertise on food security issues. In 2005 HAI reached an agreement in principle for a Memorandum of Understanding with UNHCR.

In each year of the reporting period HAI marked the United Nations International Day of Older Persons with national events in countries across the world; internationally, HAI highlighted a different theme through the website and press releases. In addition HAI featured other United Nations Days including, for example, World Day for Water, 22 March 2004: 'Securing access to water for older people and their communities in Rajasthan, India; International Women's Day, 8 March 2004; Older women and HIV/AIDS; World AIDS Day, 1 December 2003: HAI launched a report 'Forgotten Families' at the European Parliament.

4. International Council of Women

(General; 1947)

Introduction

The International Council of Women – Conseil International des Femmes (ICW-CIF) was founded in 1888 to bring women of all nations, races and cultural traditions together for a common action to improve the status of women and the well-being of the society. According to its Constitution, the objectives of the ICW-CIF are: to promote equal rights and responsibilities and equality of opportunity for all people; to work for peace in all spheres of life; to support Human Rights and the elimination of all forms of discrimination; to encourage sustainable development; to work for leadership development among women; to facilitate communication and networking world-wide.

The ICW-CIF was in the first group of 39 organizations granted Consultative Status; it was promoted to General Status in 1969. Moreover, the ICW-CIF was admitted in special relationship with International Labour Organization (ILO) as early as 1960 and World Health Organization (WHO) in 1981. It supported the United Nations in the elaboration of a series of conventions, culminating in the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) - convention (1979) combating all discriminations against women.

Thanks to its international network, the ICW-CIF offers its member organizations a tailored structure for the dissemination of information, decisions and resolutions adopted by the different bodies of the United Nations. Through its Permanent Representatives to the United Nations agencies in Geneva, New York, Nairobi, Paris and Rome, the ICW-CIF brings the voices of women together worldwide and advocates on mainstreaming the gender issues in all spheres of human activities. Members of the affiliated National Councils of Women attended all sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), New York; ICW-CIF delivered oral and written statements and organized side events, workshops and panel discussions on topics related to the CSW themes.

Currently, the International Council of Women is composed of 65 National Councils of Women representing the same number of countries. Since its last report in 2003, 5 new organizations, based in

Cambodia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the Cook Islands, Monaco and Vanuatu, have joined the ICW-CIF, while one (based in Madagascar) has disaffiliated.

Through its National Councils, the ICW-CIF works to promote human rights and educate on United Nations conventions. It takes action through 5 Standing Committees working, on the basis of triennial plans of action adopted by the ICW-CIF General Assembly, to encourage National Councils to bring information and to advocate on outstanding challenges for women to their governments on issues emerging from United Nations meetings attended by the ICW Permanent Representatives. The Standing Committees covers the following areas: Status of Women, Sustainable Development, General Well-Being, Social Issues and Communication.

Currently, the ICW-CIF President, Dr. Anamah Tan, is one of the experts of the United Nations Committee on CEDAW. The ICW-CIF ensures that a large number of National Councils submits shadow reports to the CEDAW Committee and, through workshops and seminars as well as during the visits of the President to the affiliated Councils, trains its members on CEDAW reporting.

Contribution of the ICW-CIF to the work of the United Nations

The ICW-CIF values the honour of being in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations and wishes to continue its reciprocal relationship with the United Nations bodies. It maintains a network on the international level namely through its accredited Permanent representatives to the United Nations Agencies and Commissions, such as United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), ILO, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), WHO, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and United Nations Centre for Human Settlements - Habitat (UNCHS).

The ICW-CIF took part in the most important events organised in the different Headquarters of the United Nations. Besides the annual CSW, ICW-CIF representatives attended the Economic and Social Council organizational session, held in New York, 1-4 February 2005, and the substantive session held in Geneva, 3-28 July 2006, the Economic and Social Council Global Consultative Workshop, held in Turin, Italy, 10-12 March 2004, all sessions of the Commission on Human Rights and since 2006 the sessions of the Human Rights Council. The ICW-CIF team of Permanent representatives in New York, led by Iryna Kurowyckyj, attended among others the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of small Island Developing states (Barbados+5), 10-14 January 2005, the 5th session of the Ad Hoc Committee to elaborate a Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities, 24 January-4 February 2005, the 43rd session of the Commission for Social Development (CSD), 9-18 February 2005, the Civil Society Forum, 7 February 2006 on the eve of 44th session of the CSD, as well as the annual Department of Public Information (DPI)/NGO Conferences, held each September, and all sessions and Pre-sessional Working Groups of the CEDAW.

Through its team in Geneva, led by Jeannine de Boccard, the ICW-CIF has brought an active contribution to the work of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, in relationship with the ICW-CIF triennial theme (2003-2006), adopted during its General Assembly in 2003, Perth, Australia, "Women and Development: Water, Poverty and Girl Child", as well as in line with the 4th and 5th

Millennium Development Goals (MDGs): "Reduce Child Mortality" and "Improve Maternal Health". A document — *A Girl's Right to Live, Female Foeticide and Girl Infanticide* – has been produced by the Working Group on the Girl Child, chaired by the ICW-CIF Permanent Representative to United Nations Geneva, Brigitte Polonovski; the book was launched at the 51st Session of the Commission on Status of Women (CSW), New York, 26 February-9 March 2007.

The issues related to the environment and habitat, in line with the 7th MDG — "Ensure environmental sustainability" — were one of the area to which the ICW-CIF aims at providing a significant contribution, in focusing the policy of its member organizations on this subject, as well as in participating to and organizing events dedicated namely to water and its management. ICW-CIF representatives attended the 22nd session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum of the UNEP, held in Nairobi, 3-7 February 2003, the 8th Special session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum of the UNEP, held in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 29-31 March 2004, the 2nd and the 3rd World Urban Forums, held respectively in Barcelona, Spain, 13-17 September 2004, and in Vancouver, Canada, 19-23 June 2006, as well as the 10th United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Conference on Urban and Regional Research, held in Bratislava, Slovakia, 21-23 May 2006, "*Sharing Responsibility for our region: redefining the public interest for territorial development*". Moreover, with connection to the 7th MDG, Target 10: "Halve by 2015 the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water", and following the seminar "Water: Source of Life", held during the ICW-CIF General Assembly in 2003, Perth, Australia, the ICW-CIF team in Geneva organized two symposiums on water issues: "*The International Year of freshwater, Cultural diversity and Solidarity*" (6-7 November 2003) and "*Water: Key to development*" (21 November 2005), the latter being placed in the perspective of the 4th World Water Forum, held in Mexico City, Mexico, 16-22 March 2006. The Proceedings of the both symposiums have been compiled and published by Jeannine de Boccard and Corinne Wacker, ICW-CIF Permanent representatives to United Nations Geneva.

ICW-CIF delegates have been actively involved in the work of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS). They attended the meetings of the PreCom, held in Geneva in February and in September 2003, and in February 2005; the WSIS, held in Geneva on 10-12 December 2003, the WSIS Intersessional Meeting, held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris on 15-18 July 2003, and in Tunis on 16-18 November 2005.

During the years 2003-2006, the ICW-CIF Permanent representatives to FAO, Lydie Rossini, attended all Committees, Councils, Conferences and meetings and addressed FAO's members providing information on the ICW-CIF activities and issues related to the status of women and the girl child. At the 124th Session of the FAO Council held in Rome, Italy, 23-28 June 2003, she took the floor on agenda item No 12 "Summary Programme of Work and Budget 2004-2005", of which several points concern the ICW-CIF actions, such as gender discriminations, VIH/AIDS pandemic, rural development, nutrition, food safety and health security. At the 32nd Session of the FAO Conference, held in Rome, Italy, on 29 November-10 December 2003, she addressed the Commission I on the agenda item "Progress Report on Implementation of the FAO Gender and Development Plan of Action (2002-2007)", emphasizing the activities of ICW-CIF in this area.

Thanks to its Permanent representatives to United Nations Vienna, in particular Eleonore Hauer-Rona, the ICW-CIF keeps abreast of, and takes an active part also in the work of the UNODC and UNIDO. An important part of their work is to ensure that the rights of participation and attendance of observers, especially NGOs, at the Sessions of the Conference of the Parties, are included in the Rules

of Procedure to the Transnational Organized Crime (TOC) Convention (rule 15-17). Among the meetings and conferences they attended are several Sessions of the Ad Hoc Committee for the Negotiation of a Convention against Corruption (4th, 5th, 6th and 7th sessions, 2003), the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organised Crime, 2-6 February 2004, the 1st Session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Transnational Organised Crime, 2-9 July 2004, where an oral statement has been delivered on behalf of the ICW-CIF, the 60th Anniversary of the Signing of the United Nations Charta, the 49th Session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, 13-17 March 2006, etc.

The ICW-CIF has also a strong team of Permanent representatives to the UNESCO in Paris, led by Françoise Bouteiller, working mainly on issues related to education, cultural diversity and freedom of speech, bioethics and Human Rights, with a focus on gender. They attended among others the 32nd Session of the General Conference of UNESCO held in Paris, on 29 September-17 October 2003, the 47th International Conference on Education (ICE) held in Geneva on 8-11 September 2004, the 3rd Session of the intergovernmental meeting of experts on the preliminary draft convention on the protection of the diversity of cultural contents and artistic expressions held in Paris on 25 May-4 June 2005, and the 33rd Session of the General Conference of UNESCO, 3-21 October 2005. Taking active part in the work of numerous JPC (Joint Programmatic Commissions), such as "Education for all", "Science and Ethics", "Bioethics", "Water", "Dialogue Between Cultures for Peace", "Eradication of poverty", "Education for Urban Sustainable Development", "Communication and new technologies", etc., they brought a contribution to the NGO's International Conference held in Paris on 17-19 December 2003, organized by the NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee, on the topic "Education for all to ensure sustainable development", by facilitating the workshop "Women actresses of change in the fight against poverty" on micro-credit, providing the particular example of ICW-CIF member-organizations such as the National Council of Women of Benin.

The ICW-CIF, through its Permanent representatives, has delivered written and oral statements or signed joint statements with other NGOs working in similar areas. In this respect, the ICW-CIF aims at contributing to the NGO's community in order to advocate on the improvement of the status of women, by taking part in various NGO's Committees such as, in Geneva, the Special Committee on Human Rights, The CSW, The Working Group on the Girl child, the Working Group on Violence against Women, the Working Group "Women in Employment and Economic Development", the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations (CONGO) Committee on Ageing, the Working Group on Economic Commission for Europe under the co- leadership of Sylvie Perret and Marise Paschoud, ICW-CIF Permanent Representatives, who organized in December 2004 a one-day session devoted to the economic situation of Women in the European context, 10 years after the Beijing World Women Conference. In Vienna, the ICW-CIF is member of among others the Vienna NGO Committees on Ageing; Family, CSW, Narcotic Drugs, Committee on Peace, and on Human Rights. The ICW-CIF is also a member of the Board of the Conference of NGOs – CONGO.

One of the main working methods of ICW-CIF is the dissemination of information coming out of ICW-CIF Permanent representative's reporting of United Nations activities with the aim of encouraging the affiliated National Councils to carry out substantive work on outcomes from United Nations meeting attended.

Other relevant activities

The ICW-CIF has set up a programme of small development projects aiming at "helping women to help themselves" in practical action including literacy skills, food safety, nutrition, infant feeding, women and HIV/AIDS, clean water and sanitation, sustainable development, training women on leadership and decision making. A special development fund had been established to receive donations and manage financial aspects of the projects. Preference is given to applications which train or assist women towards economic empowerment and are related to the MDGs. Projects funded over the past three years included installation of water tanks in Papua New Guinea, training program in sewing skills, small business management, in India, funding the establishment of a recycling centre and of a small business selling goods made from recycled materials, in South Africa, residential clinic for the fitting of artificial limbs for the disabled, in India. Currently, the ICW-CIF is funding a project in South Africa, which assists 200 orphan girls who are responsible for their families. This project acknowledges the 2007 United Nations CSW Theme on the Girl Child and takes into account the first MDG: "Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger". A second project is running in the FYR of Macedonia and consists of providing computer skills for unemployed women, in line with the third MDG: "Promote Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women".

In the same field of action, the ICW-CIF works in partnership with four other women organizations, assembled in the Project Five-O, helping to implement more ambitious projects.

The ICW-CIF publishes a quarterly Newsletter (with contributions in English, French and Spanish) and has launched its new Website: www.icw-cif.org.

Financial resources

The National Councils affiliated to ICW-CIF pay annual fees, the mount of which is decided by the General Assembly.

5. Movement for a Better World

(Special; 2003)

PART ONE: INTRODUCTION

The Movement for a Better World (from here on MBW) is a Catholic international organization, entirely composed of volunteers, with 650 members based in 32 nations worldwide, committed to the direct promotion of any type of activity directly or indirectly related to the building of a "better world". The main course of action of the MBW is to be identified in a long term process of spiritual and cultural formation of single and corporate consciences, in order to generate the necessary requirements and therefore create the conditions for people and communities to understand the complexity of the present situation of the world, develop the cultural instruments to react to the challenges that are posed to the future of mankind and elaborate operational projects with short, medium and long term objectives related to the transformation of society and the making of a better world. *(See page 4 for further details).*

PART TWO: CONTRIBUTION OF THE ORGANIZATION TO THE WORK OF THE UNITED NATIONS

i. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings

September 2003: our representatives attended the following: 56th Annual Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organization (DPI/NGO) Conference - Human Security and Dignity: Fulfilling the Promise of the United Nations, United Nations Headquarters, New York, 8-10 September, 2003; September 2004: our representatives attended the following: 57th Annual DPI/NGO Conference - Millennium Development Goals: Civil Society Takes Action, United Nations Headquarters, New York, 8-10 September 2004; End of June 2005: our representatives attended some DPI meetings to give our contributions on the Report of United Nations Secretary General; September 2005: our representatives attended the following: 58th Annual DPI/NGO Conference - Our Challenge: Voices for Peace, Partnerships and Renewal, United Nations Headquarters, New York, 7-9 September 2005; September 2006: our representatives attended the following: 59th Annual DPI/NGO Conference – Unfinished business: Effective Partnership for Human Security and Sustainable Development, United Nations Headquarters, New York, 6-8 September 2006. Our representatives, being volunteers, have no possibility of attending regularly these meetings; their objective is to look for other people who could collaborate with us and assure their presence at United Nations place as often as possible.

ii. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at headquarters

- **8 September 2005:** at the offices of DPI our representatives took available materials for their study on globalisation *(see below)*.

iii. Initiatives undertaken by the organization in support of internationally agreed development goals during the reporting period

- An international study of globalisation and its alternatives, with the aim of growing in a critical understanding of the so-called 'no-global or new global or alternative global' movement as a phenomenon in history and to spell out the implications for the life and action of the MBW as well as of other public institutions.

- An international study regarding the process of unification of the European Union, with particular attention to the implications that the process itself is having on the life of its nation members in terms of building a new political subject with the participation of the people and the promotion of a new European identity that can be considered a cultural model and mission oriented towards integration of diversities, solidarity and human promotion.

- Publication of a magazine of internal use of our members: «Sharing» (Compartiendo/Partage), in three languages.

- Pastoral projects for the renewal of parish and diocesan structures oriented to the implementation of full participation of the people not only as Catholics within the Church itself and for internal affairs only but also as citizens engaged in the social affairs of the territory in which they live. These projects are organized in three major stages. The objectives are: 1st stage:

creating new relations on a communitarian basis by bringing people together and organising a network of information that can allow them to discuss the issues of their own territory and be sensitised on all values common to the human experience; 2nd stage: promoting permanent small groups of people who get together and develop a communitarian identity and learn to confront themselves with the present day situations, inspired by those Christian values that can be considered common to other cultures and religions. 3rd stage: helping the Christian community to elaborate its own project as the result of a process of growth and gaining of a new communitarian conscience in order to be a significant presence in the territory.

- Pastoral projects dedicated to laity committed to one of the four following areas: healthcare, media and information, education and school, politics. These projects, rather than directly carrying out single activities of assistance to their targets, create an open space in which Catholic laity can gather and reflect on what specific challenges are posed to mankind at the present day in order to elaborate, from time to time, specific courses of action, which are not contained in the projects themselves. These are rather to be considered as instruments for the initial formation of Catholic laity on a long term basis.

- As for the Millennium Development Goals, see following, it is to be understood that the main goals and courses of action of the MBW are the promotion of long term processes of spiritual and cultural formation of single and corporate consciences. The direction of theses processes points towards the strengthening of the consciences of single individuals of belonging to larger bodies or wholes, therefore initiating the taking of responsibilities regarding the well being of the community itself, as well as that of other cultures and nations and the human family itself. Therefore the Movement is not directly engaged in activities relative to the Millennium Development Goals, but is rather indirectly involved as its aims are the promotion of a new planetary conscience of participation and solidarity, liberation from poverty social oppression and the promotion of human dignity, through the formation of laity, workshops, convention and mainly the projects themselves.

The organization's participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies were sparse during this period because of limited funds for international meetings outside of Rome and the demise of our New York representative. Arrangements are underway to have other members in closer proximity actively take part in these international meetings and activities to further the goals of the Movement for a Better World.